

CANCER: New Approach, New Hope
GARDENING: Books in Bloom

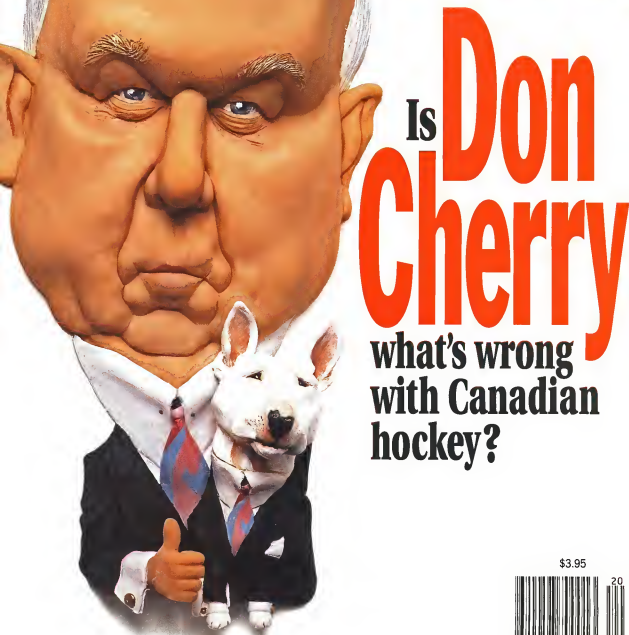
CANADA'S WEEKLY

NEWSMAGAZINE

Maclean's

MAY 18, 1998

**MERCEDES
MEETS CHRYSLER**



Is **Don
Cherry**
what's wrong
with Canadian
hockey?

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From The Editor

Playing petty politics

The Lucien Bouchard, he is such a generous character. Imagine it at a time when he has so many problems on his desk, taking time out to honor a cause close to his heart—the Anglo-American war effort. Last week, the gracious premier presided over ceremonies where books at Winston Churchill and Franklin Roosevelt were unveiled in Quebec City marking their two-year war meetings. And how fitting of Bouchard to set the table in such a way that the host of the talks, Canadian Prime Minister Maurice King, was not also memorialized in bronze.

Bouchard's acuity, of course, derives from his ability to separate detail from symbolism. With the help of only a few select historians, Bouchard was able to recognize that King was not a full participant in the 1943 talks which led to the invasion of Normandy on the eve of 1944 that plotted the end of the war in the Pacific. He also was able to recognize more symbolism and ignore the more than 5,000 Canadians who were killed or injured in Canada's war effort.

It is unfortunate that so many narrow-minded people were unable to share this chair's generous view—including the Prime Minister. Jean Chretien actually held the audacity to call Bouchard's action "very cheap" and beyond the event. Clearly, he did not share the vision of British High Commissioner Anthony Goudenough and U.S. Ambassador Gordon Riffe, both of whom were on hand to pull the shroud from the images of their respective wartime leaders. And so for those petty folk who tried to disrupt the occasion—some ranting *O Canada*, others yelling at Goudenough to speak in French—their actions bore a taint and



blind subservience, on the one hand, to Canada's veterans, and on the other, to the separatist cause.

Thank goodness Bouchard could stand above both camps, over the diplomat and error. Such was his statesmanship that Bouchard last week also agreed to undertake a full and complete review of the Calgary Declaration. Until then, Bouchard, sadly, had ignored the document, signed by the other nine premiers last year. There had been a rising clamor among Quebecers for greater constitutional

independence—instead of the relentless pursuit of job creation. The sad result is that many of Bouchard's people have been denied insights into how the Calgary accord could improve their daily lives. Obviously, the premier is convinced that a vigorous review of the Calgary commitment to the equality of all provinces and the lack of any reference to Quebec as a "distinct society" could be helpful to everyone, except perhaps new Quebec Liberal Leader Jean Charest.

The same golden touch has enabled the Quebec government's commitment to protecting innocent children. By law, Quebec has the right to take parents to court for giving their children names that would bring them ridicule. And so it came to pass that Richard Jansack and Kelly Lewis were brought to justice for naming their daughter Ivory. When the couple hired a lawyer, the government quickly backed off. What hypocrisy! What inconsistency? A government that is prepared to ban Macdonald King should not be scared of a seven-week old girl named Ivory.

Robert Lewis



Bouchard with Churchill's book a slight to Canada

Newsroom Notes:

The trouble with hockey

Don Cherry admits he never got the hang of "Nuggets." He could not get used to the food in Japan, or to being away from his Massachusetts. Don, home all that time. Didn't get the hang of some of the names, either—his attempt to pronounce "Dilemma" newly sparked an international incident. The greater discomfort, however, was that the



Dore, Cherry, not prepared to concede defeat

Olympics turned the hockey world around. Among other things, the favored Canadian finished out of the medals, forcing hockey officials to re-examine the way the game is taught in this country.

As Sports Editor James Dore discovered, hockey people are beginning to question the impact of Cherry, who for 13 years on the enormously popular "Coach's Corner" has promoted his Rock 'Em Sock 'Em style of play—to the exclusion of all others.

"What the Olympics demonstrated," says Dore, "is that no one style guarantees victory at the highest levels of the sport." But Cherry, as the story on page 46 points out, is not prepared to concede defeat.

The power package was edited by Executive Editor Bob Lewis.

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Power mergers

The announcement of the planned merger of the Royal Bank of Canada and the Bank of Montreal, followed by the Toronto Dominion Bank and the CIBC, represents the final globalisation blow (is bigger really better?) Comes May 4. When domestic politicians join the unbridled, unbridled global market, it leaves little protection for the average Canadian. What can the little people do about this? Because I have accounts with two of these banks, I have sent letters to their chairmen expressing my disapproval. If they continue with these proposals, I intend to take action. I will keep my money in the community by transferring it to a place that has my confidence—the Province of Ontario Savings Office or our local credit union. The bank CEOs may want to go from being millionaires to billionaires, but they will not do it at my expense. The liquidation of this industry, along with the inevitable downsizing that is part of it, doesn't represent progress.

Paul Melrose,
Christchurch, Ont.



The tiny bits of flesh taken every day from the hides of vulnerable customers by a plethora of bank service charges ought to be termed the "bloodletting effect." It is successfully challenging Americans, Japanese and Swiss superbanks. Canadian banks can improve their bottom line even further, they might think, if enmeshing us struggling masses now and then in the bloody plot. But somehow I doubt it will happen.

J. R. Ross,
Ottawa

The NDP rises again

Anthony Wilson-Smith is correct to say that the NDP will "blow away" at the Liberal government for its timid response to the big bank merger proposals ("When the post became the NDP," *Column*, May 4). The banks have intimidated Finance Minister Paul Martin's inaction on such approval, while Canadians have been left wondering what the concentration of assets will mean for consumers and small business. Wilson-Smith notices the mark, though, when he guesses the NDP will use a 350th policy to address a 198th issue. We understand how global imperatives, but we also believe that government is not obligated to act when it comes to bank mergers. The NDP's innovative response to the bank mergers would deny the banks' urge to merge, but encourage them to pool their resources in inter-institutional networks to enhance their competitive strength and their service to Canadian customers. In addition, by requiring banks to disclose more information on lending practices and the cost structure of service charges, we would ensure that the banks are accountable not only

Land of opportunity

Pollster Allan Gregg writes that "Canadians accept that we live in a world of diminished opportunities" ("Draw new focus," *Essays on the Millennium*, April 6). Nothing could be further from the truth. While it may be accurate to say that we have lost our guarantee of continuously increasing prosperity, opportunity continues to be as plentiful as ever. We are at an eight-year low in unemployment. Free trade agreements are opening up previously protected markets. Low interest rates and falling government deficits are making capital much more freely available. Technology—primarily computer technology—is connecting us with people, cultures and markets in a way that was barely considered a decade ago, and a flowering entrepreneurship on an unprecedented scale. We ought to be able to take advantage of these opportunities. Unfortunately, no. Is there any guarantee that everyone will enjoy success? Of course not. Are the opportunities accompanied by risks, and the discomfort of change? As always. But are the opportunities still there? Thankfully, yes. How very Canadian to call this "opportunity" and "entrepreneurship." Steve Hickling, Linton, Ont.

to their shareholders, but to their stakeholders. Finally, through a community involvement initiative, communities would be guaranteed increases in lending.

Lorne Mykura, BVI,
Regina/Saskatoon

I agree with Anthony Wilson-Smith's argument that NDP policies may find a new advocate in public opinion, particularly around issues like the megabank mergers, but I take exception to his suggestion that the party's policies are themselves soon be eligible to collect CPP. The party, which was so fiercely nationalist and protectionist in the 1980s and 1990s (trade deals, his '90s reduction in free riders), NDP opposition to the Chrétien government's Multilateral Agreement on Investment proposal is not saying "stop the bus we want off" but rather "let's slow it down, and try to get some seats before the falls in the bank." New Democrats are different because they see power held by politicians as C200s, as being a trust on loan from the public. When it is used to start a public program, or close a factory, it should be exercised democratically, and by extension, be accountable to us all.

Kevin Green,
Ottawa

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THE MAIL

Seniors fight back

Prime Minister Paul Martin may fool some Canadians with his repeated boasting of the nation's annual budget while adding another \$8.7 billion to Canada's long-term debt, but a quiet total of \$598 billion in \$13,500 per retiree ("Citizens' voice," *Canada*, April 28) that he is in any way happy with, or even any further tampering with the well-deserved pensions of today's seniors and he will learn a new meaning of the word unaccountability.

Robert A. Johnson
Brampton, Ont.

"Citizens' revolt" describes me as a "vocal critic of the Seniors Benefit." I am strongly pro the Seniors Benefit, but vocal about how its design so it does not contain unfair treatment of Canadians whose incomes are a little more than the average wage. The 2006 proposals were an already discriminatory target against aging for retirement by both low- and middle-income Canadians. These changes would add to the pension squeeze imposed by other recent alterations to the Canadian retirement income system. The Old Age Security program and their placement, the Seniors Benefit, are the most important foundations of Canada's retirement income system. I will do my best to promote their sustainability.

David W. Slater
Ottawa

'Without a hyphen'

Our family came to Canada from Hungary, seeking freedom and a better life ("To praise of multicultural diversity," *The Road Ahead*, April 27). We strive to immerse ourselves in the Canadian life, including the language of the country, and tonight we are two steps to be English-speaking Canadians, without a hyphen. It is our firm belief that a common language is essential to identify yourself with the community you choose to live in. If you wish to assimilate and cultivate the language and customs of your country of origin, you immigrate. Only to exploit the opportunities offered by this generous country? Multiculturalism is fragmenting Canada.

Joanne M. George Thelen
Gatineau

Education investment

It was a pleasure to read your excellent outline of the unique postsecondary options of British Columbia ("Customizing a degree," *Education*, April 20). Your article focused on the cost of tuition at three institutions. In British Columbia, students pay 10 per cent

of the operating cost of the universities, while the taxpayers pay the remaining 24 per cent. Equally informative is that at the University of British Columbia, the taxpayers have reduced their support between 1984 and 1997 by 21 per cent per year based on constant dollars and the number of degrees awarded. I am sure this pattern is duplicated across Canada. Canada may be a high total spender among OECD countries, but when the comparison is done on a per student basis, Canada is one of the lower spenders among these countries. Taxpayers should know the rate at which they are disinvesting in the future of our young people.

Dr. W. Stenger
President and vice-chancellor emeritus
University of British Columbia,
Vancouver

Olympic pride

Canada as athletes should not feel that their Olympic experience is cheapened by the sale of Canadian Olympic clothing by Ross ("Face, friends, friends," *Newsweek*, April 23). Canadians buy the clothing because it is a way of showing their pride and to share in the success of the Canadian delegation in Nagano, Japan.

Chris Alexander
Toronto

Going to bat

I have no quarrel with Jacques Villeneuve's selection as Canadian Male Athlete of the Year for 2007, "Athlete of the year" (*The Mail*, April 27). Maurice Pellerin's remarks about the intelligence of baseball players in comparison to Formula One drivers are way off base, however. I have been coaching and scouting major ball for more than 30 years. Great hitting requires an enormous amount of mental focus, toughness, courage and instincts. So, yes, "the same can be said for a baseball player and his bat."

Gerrit Riebel
London, Ont.

Lost in space

I have just returned from attending the launch of space shuttle mission STS-40. My brother, Dr. David R. Williams, is a clinical specialist aboard and it was a great thrill watching him enter space on the Columbia ("Ready for launch," *Space*, April 12). I would, however, like to clarify that we went up not in Pointe Claire, Que., as mentioned in the article, but in Boca Raton, where we still have friends.

Bernard Williams
Edmonton, Ont.

2:14 A.M.

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THE NEW 95**THE MAIL**
Politics and terrorism

Although I have read more unbalanced accounts of some of the things happening in Lebanon, in the Middle East, in "A fractured dream" (World/Special Report, April 27) you write about "Hamas, the violent, pro-Islamic militant group." While I deplore any sort of violence, I would just like to see one reporter tell about the schools and health clinics that Hamas funds. Hamas has a political wing and a military wing, which have been growing apart and are now helpfully creating cultural centres. It is possible to support the political side of Hamas while condemning the military side. In 1987, I spent 30 months living in downtown Hebron as an international observer. I said: "Mr. Heykal, the house described in the article runs across a farm and coffee and turned to tiny acres of the handbags of living between the Jewish settlements and the Israeli Defence Forces soldier camp. You didn't mention how Abu Heykal's five-year-old niece sometimes needs to be escorted up the hill for fear of attack by settlers, or how his wife has been started walking that same route. Make no mistake about it, the Abu Heykal family lives in a very real state of fear. Your article doesn't seem to suggest any sort of power imbalance between the

Palestinians and the Israeli settlers. While settlers may boast big size of Rambo-style weapons, Palestinians can't carry so much as a pocket knife.

Pete Sym,
Barnstaple, W.

You convinced Israeli historian Benny Morris for "impartial objectivity," but scrupulously avoid that commitment yourself. Specifically, you select Israeli views from only one part of the political spectrum—Morris, Abba Eban, Yoram Zarabi, Yim Aweri—all from the Israeli left. So intent are you to promote a picture of Israel as a reluctant aggressor that you entirely omit essential countervailing historical facts: that in November, 1947, the local Palestinian Arab leadership and the entire Arab world rejected UN Resolution 181 recommending the partition of Palestine into a Jewish and Arab state; that subsequently the Palestinian guerrillas instigated a violent campaign against the Jews; that one day after Israel declared statehood (on May 14, 1948), the Arab armies attacked the nascent Jewish state in order to destroy it; that in the spring of 1967, a war between Israel and Egypt and Syria against Israel, which war was threatened with destruction and that following the Six Day War, the Arab League

seeing in Khartoum, Sudan, issued the "Three No's about relations with Israel: "No recognition, no negotiation, no peace." No mention was made that the spate of Hamas terrorist suicide bombings in the spring of 1994 had a significant impact on the decision later that year of Benjamin Netanyahu and his centre-right coalition. Indeed, your story recklessly skirts the whole issue of Hamas terrorism and its impact on Israeli attitudes towards negotiations with Yasser Arafat's administration. These are all basic facts of history.

John Freeman,
Thornhill, Ont.

The 85 factor

Ontario teachers with the 85 factor (recognition of age plus experience) can retire, and some are getting a 50 per cent pension (A's strategic move, "Education, May 4)? But to get this maximum, a teacher must have contributed to the pension fund for 33 years. Do the arithmetic and see that this teacher would have had to begin teaching at age 19, not the situation for most teachers who find themselves eligible with an 85 factor. My husband is one of them and he would get a pension closer to 50 per cent. If there is a mass exodus of teachers taking advantage of the 85 factor, it won't reflect the lure of a

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**NEWFOUNDLAND
& LABRADOR**



Toronto Red Cross blood centre: compensation would be like paying for the unknown

big picture, it will say more about the increased stresses of teaching in the disgraced school environment created by the present government.

Barry J. Wilson,
Guelph, Ont.

Blood compensation

I do not feel those infected with hepatitis C before 1986 should be compensated, and yet I do know their pain ("Blood feud at the Commons," Canada News, May 6). My son was tested, as he received blood in 1986 and officials were not sure the blood had been screened. Thankfully, he tested negative. To compensate those who received blood before 1986, before testing was available, would be like saying it's pay for the unknown. As every writer becomes sick with, most controversy begins: a new blood prevention method be the immunization of Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease via blood.

Paula Gossel
Willy, Ont.

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CANADIAN PUBLISHED WEEKLY

Editor-in-Chief: Robert Lewis

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Voices. But I was disappointed that the past reason why Vancouver's housing boom has died down was left out of our projected economic news. The NDP government here is working hard to chase all business out of town. But our government doesn't seem to care, spending all the money they've added out of business to run their propaganda campaigns on radio and TV. If I had my own business, I'd start it anywhere in Canada except British Columbia.

Patricia Winfield,
Fort Quipson, B.C.

Best of both worlds

As a Francophone makes a wonderful distinction in "learning to love the American bully next door" (April 13). Although we Americans are generally nice people, we have an insuperable prejudice against some individuals who unfortunately tag it. It is an attractive schizophrenia to look upon as those of us directly embarrassed by it. My solution? If we could trade our decent military pay for your decent health-care system, would you all consider adding Ohio as the next province?

Paul Stanley,
Seaside, N.Y., U.S.A.

Education funding

Due to reorganization in New Brunswick's public-school system, our province's "per-pupil cost" system, not easily comparable with other Canadian provinces ("Funding trouble," Education, April 6). The graph in your article was misleading, since the New Brunswick figure represents only nine months of costing data. All other Canadian provinces have figures reported that were based on a 12-month period. These data differences were clearly outlined in our submission to the province of British Columbia, which coordinated the collection of per-pupil-cost per-pupil costing data for the 1990-1991 fiscal year, representing

12-month reporting period, the public school per-pupil cost for New Brunswick was \$5,134, placing it third from last.

Bernard Talbot,
Minister of Education,
Fredericton

Divorce issues

While I can see the value of having compulsory divorce education programs, it still seems a backwards approach to solving the family breakdown crisis ("After Divorce," Cover, April 30). A much better solution is to have a compulsory premarriage education program. Point out the challenges that happen in every marriage. Use common-sense ideas, differing expectations, money management, sexual problems and how to learn the necessary skill of mutual self-assertion that is the glue in every good marriage. To deal with ridiculous issues after a marriage breaks up is like trying to teach a drug addict the dangers of drugs when he/she is already addicted.

Mary Stewart,
Abbotsford, B.C.

Finally, some of the issues surrounding divorce have been brought to the fore. Unfortunately, you did not present a totally fair view of supporting parents. For example, the new federal child support guidelines are nothing but a thinly veiled money grab. The second spouse of a non-cohabiting parent can now have his or her income included for the purposes of increasing child support. However, the income of a cohabiting second spouse is not considered since the guidelines are based on the supporting parent's income. This implies that second spouses of non-cohabiting parents are somehow financially responsible for children they did not bring into this world, and that they do not contribute financially to the care of these children in the non-cohabiting parent's home. These perceptions are both insulting and erroneous.

David Corbett,
Fredericton

As a male parent and director of the Nova Scotia Shared Parenting Association, I thank Maclean's for helping to raise public awareness of imposed separation between children and divorced parents. Unfortunately, the article misleads as to a "father's rights" movement, which we are not. Shared parenting is about mothers and fathers who love their children. Joint custody is a legal term, not always the same as shared parenting. Just custody often means the same regime of sole custody for mothers with a big upset for fathers, but it may not entail the equal-time relationship the child had or should have with both loving parents.

Ronald Johnson,
Halifax

Healthy Bites

Name your favourite comfort food



Luscious ice cream, velvety cheesecake? Foods that mix sweet and fat taste just about everyone feel good. But why? Studies reveal that these foods stimulate the brain to produce endogenous opiate peptides, i.e., pleasure-enhancing molecules. According to expert Dr. Adam Drewnowski of the University of Michigan, high-fat foods seem to be loved worldwide and a yen for sweets is apparent from birth. Fortunately, a healthy well-balanced diet does not accommodate any food you like, just remember that moderation is the key.

Fishermen have a word for sushi... bait!



Call it what you will — these Japanese delicacies made with raw fish have taken the world by storm. But it's food that's best not home-made.

That's because, to kill any free parasites that may be lurking within, raw fish should be commercially flash-frozen at -18°C (-4°F) for at least 72 hours. But, since even freezing won't kill bacteria, if you're a sushi lover, indulge your cravings at a reputable restaurant where an experienced chef has selected and prepared the freshest fish. Note: it is wise for pregnant and nursing women, children, elderly and anyone with an impaired immune system to have their fish cooked.

Why MILK products are high on dietitians list as a source of CALCIUM

The reason is simple: it's so much easier to meet our calcium needs with milk, yogurt and cheese than with just about any other food. All it takes is two to four servings of milk products a day. Milk products are not only the richest natural sources of calcium, but the calcium they contain is also highly bioavailable (i.e., easily absorbed by the body). Most plant sources of calcium — such as legumes, almonds, rhubarb and spinach — contain oxalate and/or phytate, natural substances that impede calcium absorption. Even Popeye would be hard-pressed to eat enough spinach to match the calcium absorbed from a single serving of cheese. So for yourself.

You get the same amount of "bioavailable" calcium from one 50g serving (can of 16 deck of cards) of Cheddar cheese as from each of the following:

Almonds	1½ cups
Banana	3 cups
Rice, cooked	1 cup
Kidney beans, cooked	1½ cups
Sesame seeds	2½ cups
Spinach, cooked	8½ cups

TRYING to reduce?

Check the one that's lowest in calories and fat:

- ☐ sour cream
- ☐ olive oil
- ☐ mayonnaise

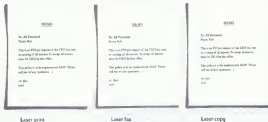
You're a winner if you chose sour cream, with 23 calories and 2 grams of fat per tablespoon. Olive oil and mayonnaise contain substantially more of both: 120 and 100 calories, 14 and 11 grams of fat, respectively.



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Backstage



Anthony Wilson-Smith

On changing political stripes

Winston Churchill was arguably the English-speaking world's first—and best-known—political free agent. Born and raised a Conservative, he was elected as one to Great Britain's House of Commons in 1900. In 1904, he switched to the Liberal party. 35 years later, he jumped back to the Tories. *Ascent* about his penchant for changing parties and constitutions, he responded, "Anyone can run—it takes a bit of agency to re-run."

Churchill would be comfortable in Canadian politics today. Changing party colors—though not necessarily platforms—has seldom seemed more in vogue. A *New Yorker* magazine article this year, compared the practice to the United States to that of free agents in sports who move to other teams to further their chances to get ahead. In politics, of course, no one stands so much cross opportunities. Instead, they claim "changes in party values," "growth of personal philosophy" or simply "profound philosophical differences."

Sometimes it is all or none of the above. Consider Jean Charest, his switch from federal Progressive Conservative leader to head of the Quebec Liberal party in the most obvious example of the trend. But has he actually measured any core beliefs? Critics might say that in order for that to happen, they would need a clear idea of where he stood in the first place. Supporters would say that Quebec's Liberals are that is none only, anyway: their own interests, and a small c conservative policies are ones that any Tory could live with. And in defence of liberalism, the one area where Charest's views have been successful, it is entirely appropriate for him to lead the province's political liberal party.

For switching, for that matter, is virtually the only sin that Quebec politicians forgive in Charest—only because their own leader, Lucien Bouchard, has done it so many times. At various times, he has been a mid-carrying federal Liberal, member of the provincial Party Quebecois, federal Tory and founder of the Bloc Québécois. In his defence, supporters say his circuitous path reflects the political journey undertaken by many in the province.

Only in Quebec can you see a Premier, Ralph Klein, was a Liberal before he was asked to run for the Tories. The new Liberal leader, Nancy Macleod, was a Tory minister who quit when she lost a leadership race to Klein. So in the province's next election, it appears that a Liberal handout Tory will castrate his narrow opponent.

Then, there is a spin on the same phenomenon—parties that either change names or adjust their policies so much that they bear little resemblance to what they stood for in the first place. After the wave of scandals that enveloped Saskatchewan's last Tory govern-

ment, the only way out of the political graveyard was to evict, reform, as the Saskatchewan Party.

The small-c conservatives in British Columbia showed no interest in a provincial Tory party. Instead, they flocked to Social Credit, which, after its collapse, kept an almost stillborn Reform party. These days, call Gordon Campbell's B.C. Liberal party anything you want—but don't call it a branch of the federal Liberals, because it is serving mightily to win over those same right-wing voters.

Social Credit also died in Alberta—but passed the right-wing torch, with much less fanfare, to the Tories. Meanwhile, in Ontario, Premier Mike Harris's Tories kept their old name, but seemed to transform into a wing of Reform. But all of this perhaps goes to today's trend: no one too much credit for originality, but after Churchill and well before this decade the practice was slow and well.

Several years ago, the New Democratic Party considered freshening its image by changing its name, the proposal, however, only served to offend voters that the NDP began life in the 1960s, as the Co-operative Commonwealth Party and adapted its present name in the 1980s.

Pierre Trudeau was still an NDP supporter—and a vocal critic of the Liberals—just a few years before he became Liberal leader. Reform party Leader Preston Manning, who likes to present himself as a non-partisan politician, first ran for Parliament in 1985—as a 22-year-old candidate for Social Credit. In Trudeau's reign, one cabinet minister—Jodi Byrnes of Alberta—was an intransigent and uncomfortable late addition from the federal Tories. And long before John Crosbie became a famous federal Tory, he was almost equally famous in Newfoundland as an anti-federal Liberal.

Then, there are those modern-day policy-wise loyalists in their parties are clear—even though it is less clear why that is the case. Talk to Reform MPs Ian MacLennan or Keith Martin about social issues, and they sound like textbook Liberals. Listen to Toronto Liberal MP Tim Wappel or some of our other Ontario caucus colleagues: they sound far more at home with Reform.

Should people be surprised that parties and politicians renege and rename themselves? Consider this: loyal federal Liberals spent the 1970s supporting a bad government and even bigger deficits and the 1980s supporting bad trade. By 1993, they were embracing the largest federal spending cuts in history, and supporting free trade more aggressively than anyone.

Churchill would have understood. As he observed, "A change of party is usually considered a much more serious breach of consistency than a change of view." Those who change parties can expect to be accused of betraying the values they stood for. But some of the best that politicians do is more true of those they have helped.

Opening Notes

Edited by TANYA JAMES



Spungee kids: youngsters on Vancouver parklands and Winnipeg's outdoor arenas

Cracking down on the down-and-out

Beggars caught violating a new Vancouver bylaw are in trouble if they have not been simply removed by the kindness of strangers. A city ordinance that came into force at the end of April carries fines of up to \$2,000 for panhandling within 30 m of banks, automatic banking machines, bus stops and liquor stores, and at night. Offenders who cannot pay—and what panhandler can?—will eventually end up in small-courts court. The blood-breeds show before is only the latest crackdown on people trying to make a living on the streets. Two months ago, the city banned the locations and hours where street entertainers may perform, and ordered them to lay in instead, \$100 licence.

Meanwhile, in Winnipeg, where panhandling has been restricted since 1993, city council recently made it illegal for people to stand or be near the main entrance of a business. At the same time, the Manitoba capital banned the soliciting of business in a roadway—a measure aimed at so-called sponge kids, who offer to clean windshields of cars stopped at intersections. According to Beanie Grechukin, clerk of Winnipeg's standing policy committee on proactive and community service, city solicitors "convicted the kids for showing entrepreneurship. But they still left it was dangerous for them to be darting in and out of traffic." The Winnipeg bylaws carry maximum fines of \$1,000.

Emporium

Number of internet users in Canada at the end of 1997, according to International Communications Union, 1.53 million. Percentage increase in internet usage since 1995: 45 and up in the past year, 200.

Percentage of Canadians in a Global TV/Southern newspaper poll who said they'd like to see more internet than a human receptionist: 60.

GOLDFARB POLL

The degree to which various Canadians believe the phrase "a country which loves hockey" accurately describes Canada. The table gives the percentages of people who agree that the statement is correct on a scale of one to 10, with 10 meaning they agree completely.

	British Columbia	Alberta	Saskatchewan	Manitoba	Ontario	Quebec	Atlantic
Agree	85	78	73	71	64	58	71
Disagree	15	22	27	29	36	42	29

Source: Goldfarb Research, 1998

Goldfarb Research Inc. Montreal

DOUBLE TAKE

Robert Goulet

For years, fans have told Robert Goulet that he is their mother's favorite singer. "I always get that," laughs the 66-year-old. "Then I look at these people who all seem to be in their 40s and think to myself, 'Well, your mother has got to be 80 or 90 years old, so I guess all my fans will be dead very soon.'"

Hardly Goulet, a fixture on Canadian TV before gaining international attention as an Elvis impersonator, has been honored with a star on the 1960 Broadway musical *Camelot*, still has a Broadway career. True to the lyrics of his signature song, *If Ever I Would Leave You*, he has no plans of going along.

In the past five years, Goulet has spent most of his time in touring musicals. From 1989 to 94, he starred as King Arthur in *Camelot*. In 1994, he was Don Quixote in a production of *Man of La Mancha* which visited nearly 50 U.S. cities. He has also had careers in movies, including *Salvage* and *Noted Gun*, and in the 1970s he was a member of the *Ed Sullivan Show* and became a Las Vegas regular. There was even a Robert Goulet Day in 1987. That he has fallen in the industry Goulet regards as regrettable, some feature only a handful of singers, and "the rest is all girls and show and progress."

Still, he has his wife, Vera, whom he married in 1982 (they were his first love), keep their home base there. Last month, the Goulets played house in the role of the wife who *Salvage* featured, and his mother, Julia. Making was not doing very thing added in Vegas—"it just felt Robert Goulet is his mother's favorite singer."



There and now still going along

DAVID THRELFALL

Who gets the polar bear plates?

License plates around the world are rectangular. Except in the Northwest Territories. The state plates in the Northwest are shaped like the profile of a polar bear—and have proven to be a hit with tourists who stop to buy them and leave plates to take home.

Last month Northwest Territories Minister of Transportation, Jim Anderson, in the truck parked at the airport, was the first to wear the white bear when the Territories closed on April 1, 1999, and the modern Arctic became a province.

Anderson says the idea of the issue that he was in the car, he was the first to wear the white bear when the Territories closed on April 1, 1999, and the modern Arctic became a province.



N.W.T. license: a popular tourist item

that changes depending on whether you are driving north or south. "Supporters of the plate going to Nunavut note that most polar bears are located in their territory. Others in the west counter that they too have polar bears roaming around, just over the border."

Anderson suggests that the west takes a brown bear for the plate, while Nunavut keeps the white polar bear. "There are more than enough species of good old Canada to go around," argues an editorial in the northern weekly *Arctic* (Yellowknife, N.W.T.). Anderson will be pleased down on what could be the biggest decision of his career. He would only say that it will be decided before next April 1, barely making the deadline.

Capital Confidential

If he had wanted to keep it secret, Brian Mulroney would never have chosen Montreal's Mount Royal Club for lunch with his former Quebec cabinet ministers to mark five years since his resignation. So he was hardly put out when word of the gathering leaked. It was first reported by the *Montreal Star* on the 10th. Mulroney, now 64, is in the city for a week. He is all dressed in black. Lucien Bouchard is quiet as Quebec's separated premier. Jean Charest now leads the Quebec Liberals, and Bouchard opted to attend his old Tory colleagues rather than the current Liberal government, which gave him a public service post.

Conversation, of course, turned to the Tory leadership. Mulroney later mentioned he never argued anyone around the table to run, although the former ministers did discuss their wish for more candidates. Mulroney had been among those counselling Charest to lead Quebec. Liberals, only saying later that the Tories had no obvious replacement. The Van press told friends that Mulroney was the party's best hope to avoid extinction. Sweet irony for Clark. But killing a 144-year-old party is not how Mulroney wants to be remembered.



Mulroney, now 64, is in the city for a week

BEST-SELLERS

- FICTION**
1. *White Noise* by Don DeLillo (Doubleday)
 2. *Under the Skin* by Michael Ondaatje (McClelland)
 3. *Portrait of a Lady* by Virginia Woolf (Vintage)
 4. *Invitation to a Beheading* by Michael Ondaatje (McClelland)
 5. *The Great Gatsby* by F. Scott Fitzgerald (Scribner)
 6. *Love in the Time of Cholera* by Gabriel Garcia Marquez (Vintage)
 7. *Call of the Wild* by Jack London (Doubleday)
 8. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien (Houghton Mifflin)
 9. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien (Houghton Mifflin)
 10. *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien (Houghton Mifflin)

- NONFICTION**
1. *The Tale of the Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (Doubleday)
 2. *The Tale of the Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (Doubleday)
 3. *The Tale of the Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (Doubleday)
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 9. *The Tale of the Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (Doubleday)
 10. *The Tale of the Two Cities* by Charles Dickens (Doubleday)

The techno century

It's Last Future, Life in the 21st Century. Part 2. Christopher Dawkins offers these sound bites on how technology will affect work and play in the new millennium. A follow-up at the University of Toronto, Dawkins offers us such topics as sexual identity, literary robotics and body cloning.

Passages

DIED: Former managing director of the Hudson's Bay Co., J. Richard Munro, 80, of cancer, at his home in Calgary, Calif. After serving with the Royal Canadian Navy in the Second World War, Munro was appointed foreign services officer at the Canadian Embassy in Washington. He joined Hudson's Bay in 1951 and rose to the position of managing director in 1969. After Munro left the company in 1973, he served as the first commissioner of the Foreign Investment Review Agency in Ottawa until 1975, when he was appointed president of the Federal Business Development Bank.

DIED: The world's largest serial-killer confederate, Samuel Clemens, 71, following a series of strokes in Moscow, California. Clemens began his career with the CIA in 1958, he founded Alexander, Va., joined Interim, which reportedly did \$144 million in business a year.

DIED: Sir L. B. Robinson, 54, founder of the British Antarctic expedition, a collection of photos and other graphic material chronicling the history of exploration, at his home in Boca Raton, Fla.

DIED: Croatian minister of defence and former Olympic pommel horse champion, Stjepan Sekul, 53, of lung cancer in Zagreb, Croatia. A native of Yugoslavia, Sekul emigrated to Canada in 1968. He was elected to Canada in 1990 and was appointed minister of defence. He was promoted to Defence a year later.

SENTENCED: The Unabomber, Theodore J. Kaczynski, 50, to four life sentences plus 30 years in prison, by Federal Judge Barbara Burrell in San Francisco, Calif. Kaczynski refused to apologise in court for killing three people and injuring 22 with his home-made bombs.

AWARDED: The \$7,000 Commonwealth Prize for best first novel to Tanya Tanya, 46, for his book *Jackie*, published by Viking Press, N.Y. Kaczynski refused to apologise in court for killing three people and injuring 22 with his home-made bombs.

AWARDED: The Franklin D. Roosevelt Four Freedoms Medal, to three-time founder and Montreal, Ont., native Craig Kallenberg, 16, in recognition of his work.

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CANADA



Graves on Parliament Hill representing victims of deadly blood-tainted transfusions

Turning on Ottawa

The notes, scribbled at the table by one of the participants, show that the slain surfaced from the very start. Alan Rock had been on the job as federal health minister only a month when, during a July 25, 1987, meeting with provincial health ministers in Montreal, he first broached the subject of

Bad blood derails the agreement on hepatitis C compensation

cost compensation for Canadians who contracted the hepatitis C virus from tainted blood. The provincial response, according to notes obtained by Maclean's, from the federal side of the table, was icy. New Brunswick's Blaise King was "upset" at its premise. "Jim Wilson, the Ontario health minister, concluded 'it was not a priority for spending,'" British Columbia's Jay MacPhail felt compensation "was a bad precedent." As for Clayton Kirby of Saskatchewan, who chairs the committee of health ministers, he stressed "not now."

Federal provincial relations are, of course, often frayed. But seldom have they been so close to the breaking point as last week, when the hepatitis C debate degenerated into a spectacle of political acrimony. On March 27, the Ottawa government and the provinces agreed to offer \$3.1 billion in compensation to the es-

timated 22,000 people who contracted the disease between 1985 and 1990. But that was before an intense campaign by the hepatitis C lobby asserted the package should cover all victims, not only a minority, when, during a July 25, 1997, meeting with provincial health ministers in Montreal, he first broached the subject of

strained laughs and engaged in an elaborate game of who said what during the earlier talks. By the end of last week, the deal looked off yet again as Quebec and Ontario called for an inclusive package covering everyone who caught the disease from tainted blood. No wonder they hope for a resolution seemed slim as the nation's health ministers prepared for spending "this thing," said an exasperated Rock before, "has set federal-provincial relations back 10 years."

For the federal Liberals, the political damage has been incalculable. Last week, the gloom deepened as weary Goss had to bribe to Quebec and Ontario, two of the biggest municipalities in the country, to pledge up to \$750 million in compensation. The pre-1985 estimate—then raised about six times to Ottawa to ensure it flows new money into the pot. (British Columbia also offered



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Canada NOTES

TUITION ON THE RISE

Ontario released new desegregation guidelines under which, beginning in September, universities and colleges can set their own tuition fees for a variety of programs. Critics decry the new policy, which is likely to result in sharp hikes in tuition fees at a time when the Conservative government has not yet set up a student assistance program promised in December.

NEGOTIATING ON SALMON

Canadian and U.S. officials are scheduled to meet this week on the question of Pacific salmon catches, and reports that the Americans are prepared to negotiate short-term quotas. The fishery will open within a month, last year's season was marked by demonstrations against what U.C. fishermen claimed was overfishing by boats from Alaska. According to a federal-provincial report, meanwhile, the salmon fleet is enlarged because of overcapacity, smaller catches and decreasing world prices.

ZUNDEL LOSES IN COURT

Holocaust-denier Ernst Zundel failed in his Federal Court bid to stop the Canadian Human Rights Commission from holding hearings into allegations that he is spreading hatred on the Internet. The commission's hearings, which centre on a California-run Web site linked to Zundel, will resume this week.

CHECKING THE WIRING

Calgary-based Winkler and Canadian Alliance announced they will immediately suspend their funding 75% after the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration warned of faulty wiring discovered in the fuel tank of a Boeing 737. Other Boeings, including Air Canada's 747s, are to be inspected over the next 60 days. A wiring problem is suspected of causing a fuel tank explosion aboard a TWA 747 off Long Island, N.Y., in July 1996, that killed all 235 passengers and crew.

TEENS JARRED

Two teenage girls were sentenced to a year in jail for their part in the bombing that preceded the death last November of 14-year-old Rhema Kirk of Sarnia, B.C. Another girl has already been sentenced to six months, while three others are still awaiting sentencing. A teenage boy and girl are scheduled to stand trial in June in second-degree murder charges in Vin's killing.



TOWERING INFERNO:

About 1,000 firefighters used helicopters, water bombers and bulldozers to battle more than 20 fires in northern Alberta. Some 140,000 hectares, much of it a prime game and game, were saved. A cold winter coupled with a hot, dry spring led to the tinderbox conditions. The biggest blaze, the Virginia Hills fire northwest of Edmonton, threatened the towns of Whitecourt and Swan Hills, where 2,000 people were evacuated. "This is probably the worst spring fire scenario we've ever seen," fire information officer Rick Strickland said.

Bingo fallout

In British Columbia, the RCMP ended a three-year investigation into the so-called Bingley scandal by laying dozens of charges against members of the provincial New Democratic Party. According to the RCMP, from the 1980s to the early 1990s, about \$1.5 million was siphoned from funds generated by charity bingo and lotteries. The money was channelled to NDP organizations and individuals connected to the party. Former NDP cabinet minister David Squires—past head of the National Commonwealth Housing Society, which ran the charity workings—faced 10 charges that include fraud, theft, larceny and breach of trust. Also implicated were Squires' companion, Elizabeth Marlow, who faces 10 similar charges, and his daughter, Marjorie Duggan, charged with 16 offences. As well, Joseph Desrosiers, the NDP's former provincial secretary, was charged with operating a lottery illegally.

The scandal first broke in 1992, when charity organizer Jacques Carpentier quit his post and charities were not getting money they were entitled to. The uproar over the allegations was a factor in the 1996 resignation of NDP premier Mike Harcourt, but no members of the current NDP government were charged. In a report released last week, senior Crown prosecutor John Nugent rejected the RCMP's recommendation that charges be laid against Desrosiers, NDP premier from 1992 to 1995, and former MLA Bob Williams.

King-size controversy

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien blasted Quebec's Parti Québécois government for using its own money to buy a \$100,000 copy of the 1945-46 War of 1812 medals that rejected then Prime Minister William Lyon Mackenzie King. "I am very surprised [Premier Lucien] Bouchard would play a game like that," Chrétien said.

of the Quebec City memorial, which features depictions of British prime minister Winston Churchill and U.S. president Franklin Roosevelt—but not King, who hosted the meetings. Federalists and sovereigntists both demonstrated at the unveiling, one side singing the national anthem while the other waved Quebec's fleur-de-lis flag and shouted "Quebec for Quebecers."

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The Bibi enigma

As peace falters, Israelis debate who their leader really is



Netanyahu addresses a gathering at Jerusalem's Holocaust memorial last week: a consummate practical politician, or a nationalist zealot?

BY STEPHANIE NOLAN

It was vintage Benjamin Netanyahu: The Israeli prime minister flew to London last week for talks with Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat, part of a desperate British and American effort to revive the moribund Middle East peace process. But Netanyahu would not be justified. He refused to agree to a new round of Israeli settlements from the West Bank, declaring he will not turn over such land to Arafat until he does agree to stop attacks by Palestinian militants. Netanyahu did insist, in his characteristic smooth and considered tones, to attending more meetings in Washington this week, and once again insisted he is still committed to the peace process. But then he staked his ground on whether he would go to Washington, and a frustrated Arafat charged that Netanyahu was up to his "nose old tricks." Israelis, too, felt they had seen all this before.

In the two years since he was elected, Netanyahu has proved as cunning as a con artist in the country he leads. He says, and his goal is "a better peace, a more stable peace." But many Israelis aren't sure. Some jokingly "Bibi"—as he is known to both Israel and Jerusalem—has been called a consummate practical politician, making all decisions with an eye to his own survival. They picture him making a lightning bolt with the peace process he inherited, trying to hold his fractious coalition government together. But others see in Netanyahu a consummate

committed to the point of ideology, with an almost biblical vision of Israel. The bones of the Oslo peace agreement signed in 1993 were laid for peace, but Netanyahu, the critics say, will never cede any of the territory he believes belongs to Israel. Ideologue? Pragmatist? Both? "This is a minority of one," says Ari Shavit, a reporter for the Israeli newspaper *Haaretz* who has long covered Netanyahu. "He is incredibly complex. And he is completely lonely."

In March, 1995, nine months after his election, Netanyahu shared his right-wing supporters when he barred over 100 of the West Bank city of Hebron to the Palestinian Authority. They could not believe he would give back land, especially in one of the four holy Jewish cities. But that was just about the last time Netanyahu followed the Oslo pact. Since then, there have been failed talks, demands for more Palestinian compliance, expansion of Jewish settlements and settling. Uri Aronson, founder of the Israeli peace movement Gush Shalom, charges that it is all part of Netanyahu's master plan for "the total destruction of the Oslo agreement." The prime minister's fervent belief in biblical Israel ensures he will not let down long-sung vows: Jerusalem is, Aronson contends, "One square meter of Eretz Israel is to him immeasurably more important than such nebulous ideas as peace and reconciliation," he says.

That is one theory. But Ephraim Inbar, director of the Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies at Bar-Ilan University in Tel Aviv,

argues that Netanyahu is an ideologue. He will give back territory, labor left-behind, but at a painfully slow pace: so that Palestinian expectations are drastically lowered. "Netanyahu is willing to make concessions," he says. "He knows he must make an agreement to get re-elected and his only clear goal is re-election." Supporters such as Inbar take Netanyahu at his word, that he is willing to give Palestinians limited self rule but will never permit a Palestinian state in Israeli borders.

Netanyahu was born in 1949, just a year after those borders were first drawn, and he comes from a line of men with fierce ideas about Israeli security. His grandfather was a famed Lithuanian rabbi, a fiery advocate of a Jewish state who brought his family to Palestine in 1909. Bibi's father, Ben-Zion Netanyahu, was a follower of the radical Jewish nationalist Vladimir Zionism. Ben-Zion, his son, was a devout Zionist, now a widely recognized expert on the persecution of Jews in the Spanish Inquisition. But for years, he was not taken seriously by his peers in Israel. Denied tenure at Jerusalem's Hebrew University in the 1960s, he took his family to live in Paris, attended school in the United States. Bibi lived in the Philadelphia suburbs, studied at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, married twice—and might well have stayed. His elder brother Yonatan was the son groomed by their father for a political career, and he rose quickly through the ranks of the Israeli army. But in 1970, Yonatan died the only hero to die in the during commando raid to rescue hostages at Entebbe airport in Uganda. An angry Benjamin re-



An Israeli politician argues with a Palestinian protesting Jewish settlers' landgrab deals

turned to Israel, founding an institute for the study of international terrorism, which he named in his parents' honor. Netanyahu's work soon brought him to the attention of Israeli leaders, and he was sent back to the United States: first as deputy head of mission in Washington and then as ambassador to the United Nations. His fluent, Israeli English, quick wit, and skill with a sword like quickly made him a fixture on American television, especially during the 1990 Gulf War. He also set out his hawkish ideas in depth. In *A Place Among the Nations*, published in 1993, Netanyahu argues that Jerusalem is a holy country besieged by hostile Arab neighbors that needs to hold on to all the territory it occupied in 1967 (its own survival)—echoing his father's belief that the tough Israeli must replace the Jewish victim of the past. "I don't know any other Israeli politician who could have written that book, who knows so much about Zionism," Shavit says.

With little previous political experience, Netanyahu won the lead credit of the right-wing Likud party in 1993 and became the most outspoken critic of the Labour government's peace deal with the

Palestinians. In the 1995 general election prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, who signed the Oslo pact, his widow Leah refused to shake Netanyahu's hand, blaming him for the atmosphere that led to Rabin's assassination by a Jewish extremist. But after a series of suicide bombings derided the peace process in the early spring of 1995, Netanyahu found a new measure of his popularity. He won the election handily by only one per cent. "I voted for him because he looks out for us," says Talita, 38, a Jerusalem real estate agent. "I thought he would continue the peace process just more slowly, more safely."

Political scientist Inbar also voted for Netanyahu two years ago, and still thinks he is doing a good job—but that does not mean, Inbar likes him. He calls Netanyahu arrogant, narcissistic, a liar, and an adolescent in his sexual behavior. "In 1993, in one of the most watched moments of Israeli television history, Netanyahu publicly confessed to cheating on Sara, his third wife," Daniel Ben-Simon, author of *The Other Israel*, an emboldened 1995 book about Netanyahu's rise, says Bibi has a huge ego, runs his government by himself, and appoints the worst people to the highest positions. "Despite all that, or perhaps because of it, he is popular. He has a barrier to personality," Ben-Simon says. "He suits the Israeli mood, living between oil and Israel."

Love him or hate him, Israelis have been stunned by the string of scandals that have plagued Netanyahu since he took office—and have watched astonished as he survived them all. He narrowly escaped criminal charges for influence peddling in the appointment of his attorney general, Dan Sepherovitz, he sent Masoud al-Amr—equipped with false Canadian passport—on a mission to assassinate a prominent Palestinian militant in Jordan. Most recently, Israelis have been outraged to find they are looking the full for Netanyahu's children's diapers, and his love of expensive cigars. Tobacco smugglers play up spending excesses by Ben, who maintains her own office adjacent to her husband's. "The temptation is to say he is stupid because of the scandals," says reporter Shavit. "That is wrong, and dangerous, and wrong."

Ben-Simon believes Netanyahu would win any other election tomorrow. "He is not an isolated incident," he says. "He is transforming Israeli society from the top to the bottom. He has a clear agenda for how he thinks Israel should look, and it's not the Israeli the Knesset had in mind." Netanyahu has picked himself an polar opposition in the traditional elite in Israeli society—left-leaning, secular Jews of European origin—and courted the ultraorthodox, the Arabization, and the Sephardic Jews from Arab countries. "The people are still divided here," Ben-Simon says. "His one of them, his messiah, but he says 'What I'm doing could be wrong, it's for you, it's for the Jews.'"

Netanyahu also knows he is a prime-time player, well among his followers. Last weekend, he was still holding out against U.S. pressure for a meeting in Washington, an atmosphere clouded by an unexpected remark by First Lady Hillary Clinton supporting a Palestinian state. White House officials insist it was her personal opinion, not a pressure tactic, but Netanyahu was only too aware that Washington had suggested it would "re-examine" its approach to the peace process (it the meeting did not take place). In so, it is a high-wire act. Netanyahu is the only Israeli prime minister likely to live somewhere in the middle of the competing theories about him. Yes, he is an ideologue. "His agenda is 300 years old, his content is so old as Abraham," Ben-Simon observes. On the other hand, he says, Netanyahu knows that the peace process he inherited is a political reality and is determined to find a way to make it work with his convictions. "I think only way he can be prime minister," says Ben-Simon. The big question is which Netanyahu will rest all down with Arafat—the Zionist hawk or the practical politician. □

Revolution's child



Ortega and wife Marlene Abadía Naranjo. Years in a private hell

Charges of incest cloud the political future of Daniel Ortega



Like many young victims of sexual abuse, Zolnerovska Naranjo says she lived with a terrible secret for nearly two decades, ashamed and afraid of what would happen if she told anyone. But as the stepdaughter of Nicaraguan president Daniel Ortega, Narvez, now 30, carried a double burden. Realizing that her stepfather molested her, she felt, could threaten not only her family's stability, but that of her nation, which was in the midst of consolidating Ortega's socialist revolution. "I wasn't a private hell," she told *Maclean's* in a three-hour interview last week. "Everyone believed I lived in this gilded, privileged world—but instead it was a prison." The sexual abuse, begun when she was 11, persisted through most of Ortega's years in office between 1979 and 1990, and continued as harassment, obscenity-laced phone calls that lasted right up to this year.

Next week, Ortega heads into a party congress that is still expected to reconfirm him as leader of the Sandinista Front. But the accusations by the daughter he adopted have scandalized the country fractured by largest opposition party and opened an emotional debate over incest, rape and the treatment of women. When Narvez published an open letter in a political newsletter in March, Ortega immediately held a news conference expressing "pain and sad news" over what he called a "mistake." Yet he never addressed the charges directly. By leaving that to Narvez's mother, Rosaria Murillo, who denied that abuse ever took place, Ortega has a wife called his daughter—who is a well-known and prominent Sandinista activist—"crazy" and "bpy

Sadness, lacks her version, writing she was aware of what was going on even before he married her in 1986. Sandinista, an ambitious politician who served as Nicaragua's envoy to the United Nations, says loyalty to the Sandinista cause and to his stepdaughter had stopped him from confronting the issue. "How many times has Daniel Ortega phoned me in the morning to ask me political advice, then dialed the same number in the evening to make sexual propositions against my wife?" asks Sandinista, who separated from her in part due to the stress caused by the abuse, but has returned to support her. "Finally, I decided that keeping quiet meant colluding with him."

Narvez, whose disclosure came after a year of psychotherapy, says she had no motivation beyond salvaging her health and that of her children, aged 5 and 6. "I wouldn't let them leave the house because I was haunted by the fear something would happen to them," she said. "I couldn't bear to destroy their lives. Now, I don't want them to have an emotional or disturbed mother." She says she had two nervous breakdowns in 1982 and 1986, and suffered from claustrophobia, migraines, nightmares and the eating disorder bulimia. On two occasions, she tried to run away from home, but police promptly returned her to the clutches of the president.

In recent weeks, several journalists have admitted they knew of the abuse, and there is a growing acceptance of Narvez's story among Nicaraguans. Women's groups have drafted a national "system" of sexual abuse, often a recent one, claiming that one in four women become victims before the age of 12. Narvez has turned her catharsis into a crusade, urging other women to speak out about their ordeals. She has little compassion left for the revolutionary icon whom she said controlled her life for years and whose surname she has renounced. "I had already spoken to him privately, telling him how badly his actions were hurting me," she recounts. "But still he wouldn't listen." She plans to take legal action against Ortega and is lobbying for his parliamentary immunity to be stripped so he will be forced to stand trial. She also wants his adoption of her revoked.

The Sandinistas oppose Narvez's allegations on the grounds of next week's congress from three days to one and a half is an apparent attempt to keep the issue from bubbling over. Primarily, many admit Ortega's candidacy for the next presidential election in three years is at risk. "It would be political suicide for us," says one party official. Narvez still regards herself as a dedicated Sandinista. But she is long past the point of outliving in silence.

Narvez's husband, 48-year-old Alejandro

SENE NORDAN in Managua

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World NOTES

RIOTS IN INDONESIA

Riots and protests broke out across Indonesia after the government raised prices of fuel, transport and electricity by up to 70 percent as part of a bailout pact with the International Monetary Fund. In the northern Sumatran town of Medan, at least two people were killed in three days of disturbances. Riots targeted shops owned by the ethnic Chinese minority, many of whom fled. Police in Jakarta fired rubber bullets at students demanding the ouster of longtime President Suharto.

NO EXECUTIVE PRIVILEGE

A U.S. judge ruled that senior White House aides could not invoke executive privilege to avoid testifying in the Monica Lewinsky sex-and-perjury case. The decision meant the aides would have to discuss conversations with President Bill Clinton, although his lawyers were widely expected to appeal to the Supreme Court.

CANADA HOUSE REOPENS

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will join the Queen in reopening Canada House in London this week. Chrétien has spent \$15.5 million over the past two years refurbishing the Tudor-style landmark, which houses some Canadian consular staff and promotes all things Canadian to Londoners and visitors. Many of its stately public rooms have been restored to the grand style of 1885, when the former Union Club first opened as Canada House.

TOXIC SPILL PLEDGE

The Toronto-based mining firm Boliden Ltd. said it would pay \$9.2 million compensation to farmers whose lands have been ruined by a major toxic spill from the company's mine in southern Spain. Spanish officials who registered the spill said 2,000 farmers had been affected. Boliden, owned by Swedish and Canadian interests, denies negligence, but has also promised to pay for the cleanup.

ANOTHER BIG BANG

Astonished astronomers said they had detected the biggest explosion ever witnessed in space. The mysterious burst of gamma rays in a galaxy 13 billion light-years from Earth released almost as much energy in one second as all the stars in the universe combined. Italian and U.S. astronomers recorded the burst in December.



A black swan runs through floodwaters and a bearded woman (right) across a river.

Swept away by killer mud

Maria Esposito watched helplessly, trapped on her balcony as she saw rescuers carried off by a surging river of mud. Not far away, a timber and three children died after the sludge dragged them a kilometer downstream, while the father saved himself by scrambling onto the roof of their house. On another street, 64-year-old Enrica Trancatelli and her cousin escaped out a window just in time. "Another half-hour and we would have been swept away with the rest of them," said Trancatelli.

Such scenes of horror were recounted at emergency shelter camp Serra. Italy, last week after more than 300 people died in massive landslides triggered by torrential rain along a 35-km stretch south of Naples. Some 3,000 firefighters, soldiers and police were struggled to save villagers trapped in homes and cars. The rescue effort proved extremely difficult because the mud was deep and white-ragging grey to tan, the sludge began to ooze into a hard shell. The



believe government spent \$40 million in aid to villages and provided the search for bodies would continue into this week. Some locals complained that a building development had leveled billion-ton lands in the area and others accused the government of not investing money in the area to prevent such a tragedy. But officials blamed the disaster on forest fires that had stripped away the topsoil, and said many residents were living in flimsy buildings too close to rivers.

A Vatican murder

It was supposed to be a day of celebration, in which a new crew of colorful Swiss Guards would be sworn in at the Vatican along with their newly appointed commander, Alois Estermann. Instead, it became the day of his funeral. Two days earlier, Estermann, 43, was shot along with his wife by a 23-year-old guard who then fired his gun into his own mouth, killing himself. A Vatican spokesman called the bloodshed "a fit of madness" by a

disgruntled member of the 400-year-old 100-man corps that protects the Pope. The killer, Cedric Torrey, was angry over a reprimand he had received from Estermann, according to a letter he sent to his mother and sister two hours before the event. The Pope and Torrey must face "God's judgment" for the murder. Later, the Vatican denied a German report depicting Estermann as a former spy for the East German Stasi secret police who had fed the agency information from the Vatican between 1983 and 1984.

Driven to Merge

BY ROSS LAVER

Now, less than a year in talks to merge with Italy's Armas, Nor, as far as anyone knows, is McDonald's planning to team up with a chain of fancy French restaurants. But in the category of seemingly impossible corporate pairings, few other deals can compare with last week's odd-couple marriage of Daimler-Benz AG, maker of Mercedes-Benz cars, and Germany's Chrysler Corp., maker of Chrysler cars. The former is a mass-market American automaker known for its snazzy vehicle lineup and sometimes less-than-stellar quality. The latter, a polished if plodding symbol of German engineering excellence, churns out solid and conservatively styled luxury cars for wealthy buyers the world over. Talk about a culture clash.

Yet when North America's third-largest carmaker announced a \$57-billion merger with Germany's biggest industrial firm, almost no one in the global auto sector questioned the logic of the deal. Unwieldy leaders, rival manufacturers and financial analysts all said the partnership makes perfect sense, giving Chrysler

the international presence it has always lacked and establishing Daimler-Benz as a major player in North America, where it is weak. What remains unclear is whether the deal—the world's biggest merger between manufacturing companies—will trigger a wave of similar alliances in the auto industry, which is struggling with chronic overcapacity, skyrocketing research-

and-development costs and outthroat international competition.

The answer to that will depend in part on how successful Daimler-Benz and Chrysler are in uniting their operations under one banner. DaimlerChrysler, as the new entity will be called, will have 420,000 employees and 24 car and light-truck assembly plants in six countries. With \$169 billion in annual revenues, it will rank as the world's third-largest auto company, behind General Motors and Ford but well ahead of Toyota.

The numbers are formidable but so are the challenges—not only in reconciling two dramatically different corporate cultures, but in making sure that the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. The effective takeover of Chrysler by a

Schreyer (left) and Eason, the companies are at odds as their odd-couple chief executives



German-controlled company—under the deal, Daimler-Benz shareholders will own 57 per cent of the new company—also calls into question the future of the Canada-U.S. Auto Pact. Under that 33-year-old treaty, North American automakers can import vehicles and parts duty-free from anywhere in the world, while foreign manufacturers, including Daimler-Benz, are required to pay a 6.7-per-cent tariff (page 34).

Despite such obstacles, the two men who engineered last week's deal sounded unreservedly optimistic about the new company's prospects. "We are leading a new trend we believe will change the future, the face of the industry," Chrysler chairman Bob Eason, 58, said at a joint news conference in London. Daimler-Benz chairman Jürgen Schreyer, 53, added that the two companies do not anticipate any plant closures or layoffs. "On the contrary," he said, "we estimate with this combined strength we will grow, we will add volume and we will be creating jobs on both sides of the Atlantic."

Already, Eason and Schreyer have resolved one of the thorniest issues confronting companies that try to merge: the problem of executive control. During the first three years, they will share the posts of chairman and CEO. After that, Eason plans to step down and leave his German counterpart alone at the top.

Given their personality differences, that is probably just as well. A mechanical engineer who ran General Motors' European operations before joining Chrysler as chief operating officer in 1992, Eason is a low-key team builder who shares the spotlight and happily gives credit to others for his company's recent successes. Schreyer, in

BIG WHEELS

Best prices in Canadian dollars

contrast, is a blunt and outspoken autocrat who secured his own power base three years ago by ousting that city's Daimler-Benz board of directors and rid of a popular fellow executive. His predecessor as CEO, Eberhard Reuter, says the cigar-chomping Schreyer shows "subliminal hostility" in business dealings. At work and at play, Schreyer is known for making waves. In 1995, he and two colleagues were briefly detained by police in Rome after they were found whooping it up with a bottle of wine at one of the city's most popular tourist attractions: the Spanish Steps.

The story is that, for years, Chrysler has been the most strongly nationalistic of Detroit's Big Three automakers. After a break with bankruptcy in 1980—during which it was rescued with U.S. and Canadian government loan guarantees—the company fought back with a litany of new cars and engines and repeated appeals to consumers to "buy American." More recently, its Canadian subsidiary has been at the forefront of a campaign to preserve Canada's 6.7 percent duty on imported cars, including Mercedes-Benz.

That Chrysler has now decided to provide its future on German ownership is a measure of how much the auto industry has changed during the past two decades—and is likely to continue changing. During the late 1980s, a wave of consolidation saw Chrysler take over American Motors, including its Jerry divisions, which Ford acquired Britain's Jaguar and a minority interest in Mazda of Japan. Meanwhile, GM took control of the Swedish automaker Saab and bought a chunk of Japan's Isuzu. Later, BMW took over Britain's Rover Group, and Sweden's Volvo came close to joining forces with Renault.

Cumulatively, on the same day that Chrysler and Daimler-Benz announced their merger, Britain's Vickers PLC agreed to sell Rolls-Royce Motor Cars to Volkswagen for \$564 million. In doing so, Vickers walked away from an earlier \$803-million agreement with BMW. Vickers shareholders will be asked to choose between the two bids at a special meeting on June 4.

All of these deals have one thing in common: a desire to wring further efficiencies out of an industry that faces intense competition, declining profit margins and stagnant markets in industrialized countries. Of the world's major automakers, Chrysler has been among the most successful in adapting to the harsh new realities of the auto business. Its near-death



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Chrysler Intrepid
\$24,395



Dodge Grand Caravan
\$24,690



Jeep Grand Cherokee
\$36,030



Mercedes-Benz CLK320
\$56,950



Mercedes-Benz
SL600
\$159,750

experience in 1981, coupled with similar financial crisis at the beginning of the 1990s, forced the company to streamline operations from top to bottom, eliminating layers of management and implementing Japanese-style production development teams. Those changes have made Chrysler, one of the industry's most innovative and nimble manufacturers, capable of designing and introducing a new vehicle from scratch in less than 36 months—roughly a year faster than its North American rivals.

Thanks to the popularity of its airplanes and four-wheel drive sport utility vehicles, it is also the world leader in per-vehicle profitability. Despite those achievements, Chrysler's heavy dependence on North American sales has left it more vulnerable than either Ford or GM—both of which have extensive European operations—to cyclical downturns in the American and Canadian economies. For that reason, analysts praised the decision to join forces with Daimler-Benz, which, in addition to being a European powerhouse and luxury car specialist, is the world's biggest manufacturer of heavy trucks and a leading producer of commercial vans and buses.

For Daimler-Benz, the merger offers other potential advantages. Schreyer and his associates make no secret of their admiration for Chrysler's renowned speed and efficiency, qualities they hope will rub off on the slower, more risk-averse German company. In addition, Daimler-Benz has wanted for years to expand out of its luxury niche into the high-volume business of building popularly priced vehicles. Adding Chrysler to its family of products instantly gives Daimler-Benz an established brand at the lower end of the market, without diluting the more refined Mercedes-Benz image.

Mercedes also will like to try to leverage Chrysler's expertise in light trucks, which now account for two-thirds of the U.S. company's North American sales. Mercedes' first entry in that field, the ML230 sport utility vehicle, which went into production last fall at a new plant in western Alabama, is already a runaway success. In future, the company could sign off new minivans and sport utility vehicles based on existing Chrysler platforms, thereby saving hundreds of millions of dollars in development costs.

The benefits for consumers, if any, are more difficult to calculate. In theory, a more efficient manufacturer should mean lower prices for car buyers, but the scale of last week's merger is such that it may take years before most of those savings are realized. In

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SPECIAL REPORT

Chrysler's Brampton, Ont., assembly plant: a bright future

members become ineligible for day-to-day treatment if they are acquired by a nonmember—such as Daimler-Benz. Chrysler and the CAW are sure to pressway the federal government for an exemption from that regulation, but that will put the federal government in a delicate position. The reason: Ottawa has withheld duty-free status from Honda Canada and Toyota Canada, both of which are believed to be meeting the part's production and content requirements, largely because they were not original members of the agreement.

However, CAW president Bruce Hargrove dismissed Daimler-Benz's concerns. "Chrysler is not going to be an imported entity within this merged corporation," he said. "For someone to suggest that they would lose Auto Pact status would be pretty silly." In fact, Hargrove said the union of Chrysler and Daimler-Benz is one of those rare corporate consolidations. "There's no threat of job losses. There's no threat to consumers by eliminating one of the companies."

If anything, the merger could lead to new investment in Canada. Chrysler currently runs three shifts a day at its Windsor engine plant, which churns out almost 1,500 vehicles daily for nearby workweeks. A second Windsor plant manufactures 425 full-sized vans daily. In late July, the company will add a third shift at its Brampton, Ont., car plant, which manufactures Chrysler's full-line sedans—the Intrepid, Concorde, LH6 and 300M. Hargrove said Chrysler may be able to market those vehicles through Daimler-Benz dealerships in Europe, where it now has little presence. "I would predict that they won't be able to produce those cars fast enough if they start putting them in Europe," he said.

Chrysler spent almost \$6 billion upgrading its Canadian manufacturing operations between 1994 and 1997, half of that in the past two years. The company has not disclosed how much it will spend in 1998, but there are unconfirmed reports that Chrysler Canada is close to announcing several major new capital expenditures at its 36 manufacturing plants, totaling \$500 million. Chrysler's executive president of manufacturing, Dennis Posley, last week assured Hargrove that those projects will go ahead despite the merger. "Ile said that anything they've committed to privately, to us, would not be changed," the CAW leader said.

Now, that will be welcome news for Chrysler's Windsor workers. Understandably, most of them were preoccupied last week with the merger and its potential impact on their jobs. "We were confident that it would benefit them long-term. 'We built good product,'" said Mike Russell, 55, enjoying an after-work beer at a neighborhood pub near the Windsor assembly plant. "With the technology we have and the technology they have, we'll make a hell of a merger."

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BY ARCY JENISH with Jeff Seaborn in Windsor

GETTING IN GEAR

Corporate engineers rarely won praise from the shop floor, but last week's marriage of Daimler-Benz AG and Chrysler Corp. was a notable exception. "I'm sure it will help both companies," said Tony Maaga, a 25-year-old assembly line employee at Chrysler Canada's enormous Windsor, Ont., engine plant. Sitting outside the factory on their lunch break, he and co-workers Tony Goudreau, 38, sounded bullish about the prospects for the company under German ownership. "We'll be bigger over there, and they'll be bigger over here," Goudreau says. "It's a win-win situation." Neither man was at all worried about potential plant closures or job losses. "Chrysler has too much money invested here," said Maaga.

For now, at least, those investors appear secure. Hours after the deal became public, senior Chrysler executives met in Toronto with leaders of the Canadian Auto Workers union, which represents 15,000 Chrysler employees, and assured them that the company intends to proceed with several costly new investments in the engine plant. Company and CAW officials said the merger will have little impact on Chrysler's Canadian operations because the two manufacturers produce cars for different market segments and both are profitable. "They've owned the premium end of the car market and we own midrange and light trucks," said Chrysler spokeswoman Judy News. "The product lines complement each other."

The case closed on the bottom a political. Some analysts believe the merger could lead to Chrysler's exclusion from the 1995 Canada-U.S. Auto Pact, which allows it to bring cars into this country duty-free, for meeting domestic production and content requirements. "If they are locked out, it will be one of the most controversial things that's ever happened to the auto industry in this country," said Dennis DesRosiers, a Richmond Hill, Ont.-based analyst. "The Auto Pact is sacrosanct."

The problem, DesRosiers said, is a series of clauses in the 1989 Canada-U.S. Free Trade Agreement stipulating that Auto Pact

The mood is bullish on the shop floor



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Investments

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Deirdre McMurdy



A change in direction

Spring is the season of retooling for corporations and governments alike. In the private sector, it is the time when most companies issue annual reports and comment on the prospects for the coming year. In the public sector, politicians review the past year's fiscal activity and issue new budget plans. In so doing, leaders from both sectors are held accountable to their respective stakeholders.

To underscore those parallels and emphasize their pro-business leanings, several premiers, including Ontario's Mike Harris, lower corporate taxes. They refer to themselves as CEOs, to their cabinets as boards of directors, or voters as shareholders. But with the latest Ontario budget, Harris has done something few business leaders would ever advise: he has whipsawed public "shareholders" with an abrupt change of tone and direction.

After several years of harsher spending cuts and reductionist rhetoric about the imperative for restraint, Ontario's Tory party suddenly announced generous new funding initiatives for health care, education, child welfare and the arts. Deloitte reductionism was taken on all the front burner, and its climate was delivered until the 2000-2001 fiscal year. The schedule for personal income tax cuts was moved forward. Business tax cuts will move from the highest level in Canada to the lowest over eight years.

This about-face mirrors what the previous New Democratic party government did in the last stages of its mandate. It started out with a full-on implement of social welfare programs. But as the cost of those programs escalated and the economic health of Ontario deteriorated, Bob Rae's NDP government opted to break ranks with its traditional supporters. It then adopted a series of spending cuts and claw-backs worthy of any neoconservative regime.

The Harris government also started out true to its traditions. But as its term draws to an end, it is seeking new support among voters by adopting resonance with a social democratic line.

As any corporate CEO with astute, surprising stakeholders and blurring long-exposed

strategies is always a dangerous practice, love starts and voters alike want to know what to expect. They frequently punish those who change the rules of engagement without sufficient notice or context.

Last week, the president of Dylex Ltd.'s Tip Top division, Albert Israel, unexpectedly resigned after it became clear that his new game plan for the climbing retailer was flawed. Tip Top, previously a seller of budget-brand mountain gear, has been trying to move to a more upscale market niche. So far, the strategy has alienated existing customers and failed to attract new ones, taking a toll on Dylex's share price.

The same day that Israel resigned, Spar Aerospace Ltd. CEO Colin Watson, disavowed his sweeping shareholdings with disappointing financial results in 1998 and 1997, and for an unsuccessful detour into the satellite communications business. In a rare display of executive-style humility, Watson conceded that he was "blind" to disappointed investor expectations and to confute them by branching out into an unfamiliar business. Spar's share price is currently half what it was when he assumed

the top job more than two years ago. By the same token, Carrol Corp. lapsed to regain investor confidence since it spiced dismal financial results on Bay Street in 1997 and embarked on an unexpected and ill-fated crusade against Microsoft Corp.

Prior to the last recession, shareholders were more tolerant of companies that diversified and experimented with new initiatives. But investors have learned the hard way that they must now deliver so-called pure plays, businesses that clearly plot their course and adhere to it. A good example is Canadian Pacific. Once a mighty, messy conglomerate with a stagnant share price, CP has refocused its glory by systematically shedding "non-core" assets and focusing on a narrower range of operations.

As various layers of government have restructured in recent years, political leaders may have openly attempted to emulate more private sector practices. Even so, it seems that some lessons just cannot be taught by example—or precedent.

With his new budget, Mike Harris has done something few CEOs would ever advise

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Business NOTES

A mutual fund star flames out

GREENSPAN TALKS TOUGH

Tougher banking rules are required worldwide to prevent future Asian-style currency crises, U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Alan Greenspan said. He added that financial institutions in many countries routinely make unsound loans and take excessive risks in the expectation that central banks will step in and bail them out if they run into trouble.

MAGAZINE MEASURES

Ottawa is considering a plan to forbid magazines from carrying Canadian ads unless half their editorial content is Canadian. Another proposal is to tax all magazines and use the money to subsidize Canadian publications. The World Trade Organization ruled last year that Canada's magazine protection laws are illegal. Ottawa has until October to replace them.

SOFTWARE SHOWDOWN

Microsoft chairman Bill Gates argued that any attempt to stall next month's release of its Windows 95 software would hurt the U.S. economy. The speedsters want a last-ditch effort to hold U.S. entrant efforts at bay. The U.S. justice department is reportedly planning legal action.

MILL CLOSINGS

Canfor Corp. of Vancouver is planning temporary shutdowns of several of its sawmills in British Columbia and Alberta, blaming restrictions on Canadian softwood lumber exports to the United States and low demand in Asia. Canfor's 2,150 sawmill employees will each lose about six weeks of work.

CLASH OF GIANTS

GMR Corp. of Stamford, Conn. is trying to block the proposed \$53-billion merger of WorldCom and MCI, claiming it would harm competition and possibly raise long-distance and Internet charges. MCI said GMR is simply worried about competition.

SORRY, WRONG NUMBER

Dealers of Montreal-based Forclore Inc. asked company shareholders to reject a \$1 billion hostile takeover bid by Cell-Net Enterprises Inc. of Toronto, parent company of Sprint Canada. Forclore CEO Jan Perren called the offer inadequate and said the company will make its business figures available to other interested parties.

It was a spectacular fall from grace for one of Canada's later market fund managers. Francis Menich, 46, resigned from Toronto-based Atlantic Investment Services Inc. and allegations that he had sold a 1993 investment fund later sold at an estimated profit of \$5 million. Menich, a multifaceted man whose savvy stock picks and stellar returns made Alcatraz one of the country's most successful mutual fund companies in the early 1990s, said in a written statement that work pressure prompted his decision to leave. "I feel I must step aside for a period to spend time with my wife and children."

The Ontario Securities Commission, which leveled the charges, launched an investigation in 1996 into events surrounding Menich's purchase, through a registered company of shares



Menich work pressures

in Vancouver-based Diamond Fields Resources Inc. The 1993 transaction occurred only months before Diamond Fields discovered the huge Vasey's Bay nickel deposit in Labrador. The OSC alleges that Menich told investors that he did not benefit from the stock's enormous rise because the involved company, Diamond Fields Holdings Ltd., was owned exclusively by a childhood friend, Toronto businessman Peter Cusack. In reality, the commission says, Menich was the sole owner. Six weeks after Diamond bought into the stock, Diamond Fields shares jumped from 15 cents to \$2.85 following a decision by Alcatraz and other major investors to purchase it. The controversy at the heart is a series of articles for Alcatraz several of whose authors have posted lucrative income during the current bull market.

Upheaval at Philip

Heads rolled at troubled Philip Services Corp., as the Hamilton-based company struggled to salvage its battered image. The company's financial services firm is reviewing the departure of several key figures, including co-founder Philip Friesen, a director and president of the metals division, and chairman Howard Beck. President Allen Friesen stepped down to become executive vice-chairman.

The new CEO and president is Felix Pardo, a director since 1994. The company also announced plans to cut its 3,700-person workforce by 10 per cent, sell off its divisions, and liquidate its copper inventory. Despite the changes, the company's stock continued to slide. Philip's stock investors in March by receiving a \$500 million write-down for 1997, including a loss of at least \$500 million from speculative copper trading. It announced a series of additional write-downs last month.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

Canada's economy created 72,000 jobs in April, reducing the unemployment rate to 8.4 per cent—the lowest level in eight years. Over the past year, the number of full-time positions has grown three times as fast as part-time. In the United States, unemployment has a 20-year low of 4.3 per cent, raising concern that interest rates will rise before the end of the summer.

Despite Canada's strong economy, housing starts dropped eight per cent in April from the month before, dragged down by a 21-per-cent drop in apartment and

condominium construction. The number of new single-unit homes rose fractionally. Economists said the downturn was temporary.

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the spending of Canadian households and companies."

—Rayn Bank

"Job growth has reached a point where it has begun to trickle down to younger people. Signs of wage pressures are a long way off, but this represents a new stage in cyclical labor market development."

—Scott Bank

"It is only a matter of time before the Bank of Canada puts the interest rate trigger again."

—Russell Sears





Peter C. Newman

Red's revolution in telecommunications

He moves with the grace of a swordsman, smokes fragrant Rey del Mundo Cuban cigars, and over the past eight years has achieved an impressive turnaround of Canada's largest company, BCE Inc., moving its market capitalization from \$11 billion to \$40 billion. Last week, 58-year-old Lynton Ronald Wilson, known to almost everybody as "Red," named himself from the CEO's office upstairs into BCE's chairman and appointed Jean Marry, the capable former head of Nortel Inc., a key BCE subsidiary, as his successor. He had a lock of a run.

When Ray Cyr, then BCE's chairman, came to see Wilson, then vice chairman at the Bank of Nova Scotia, in Toronto in 1980 to offer him the job, Cyr mentioned one priority issue: the urgent need to expedite BCE into its communications assets, bought during the late 1980s, that were draining its profits and cash flow. (Cyr to launch the company into the international services arena. "After that," Cyr boasted, "you can take it easy because Bell Canada is a regulated monopoly and Nortel is moving from success to success.")

Within months after Wilson arrived at the company's Montreal head offices, Bell had been demagogued, and Nortel was in big trouble.

Red hasn't stopped raising issues. He arrived just as all the ground rules changed. The two biggest factors he had to contend with were the accelerating evolution of technology and the new forms of competition that grew out of Ottawa's deregulation of the industry. "he told me last week as he was preparing to change jobs. 'Interestingly, they tell off each other. New technology produced new forms of competition which in turn accelerated the pace of new technology.'"

When Wilson took over, Bell had forfeited its long-standing reputation as "the final stack for windows and telephones." In the mid-1980s, CEO Jean de Grandpre had played the company into a dozen unrelated ventures, mainly in real estate and financial services. They proved disastrous, with the real estate deals triggering losses of \$250 million in 1993 (which followed \$940 million in write-offs and uncovered losses since 1986), while Montreal Trust, originally purchased for \$875 million, was sold for \$280 million. After another \$175 million had been invested. At the same time, Nortel had to write off \$1.1 billion and Wilson had the difficult assignment of arranging the departure of Paul Stora, its co-founder CEO.

Wilson had trained as a trade officer with Canada's foreign service, after a stint in Ottawa. He was posted to Vienna, Austria, and Tokyo and when he worked in the news at BCE, he used his most diplomatic approach, though he ended up being respected equally for his strength. In the process, he transformed Bell's stately cor-

porate culture into an entrepreneurial ethos that has been its distinguishing ideology ever since. That was not easy with 130,000 employees, most of them used to working in an environment of costly protection by Ottawa's regulatory blanket, dedicated to maintaining the Bell monopoly. Wilson hired new executives who he had seen that approach and launched the incoming giant into the Darwinian world of global, no-holds-barred competition.

He presented Marry into the Nortel presidency, as well as bringing in such holdovers as Derek Borsay, the former Canadian ambassador to Washington, who now runs Bell Canada's international, a BCE subsidiary. Peter Nicholson, a former colleague at the Bank of Nova Scotia, whom he placed in charge of strategic planning; and Bob Forst, who was plucked out of Nortel to ride herd over the cellphone business.

BCE has branched out into Colombia, Brazil, India, Taiwan, Japan and China. Revenues from Nortel's wireless technology shot up 31 per cent during 1993. BCE spends \$2 billion a year on research and hired 875 new masters and PhD grads last year alone to keep ahead of the pack.

Of the many telecom scientific advances the most important is the speed at which information now travels. "Ten years ago," says Wilson, "the longest single circuit trunk lines could transmit digital information at the rate of 565 megabits per second, which meant carrying 8,000 telephone conversations. Today the system can handle 120,000 conversations along a single pair of optical fibres the width of a human hair. The latest equipment, already being installed by Nortel, can carry 265,000 conversations, and the next generation, now in the pipeline, can transmit 512,000 full-length words every second."

But not everything is rosy. Bell Canada has lost at least 35 per cent of its long-distance revenues to Murphy Brown and other share rate servers. And as of Jan. 1, local services are now open to competition. That contest has yet to be fought.

Overriding every other technology are wireless and satellite communications. BCE's own direct-to-home satellite TV provider ExpressVu, which it will start expanding in a serious way this year.

When he was starting out at BCE, and it was still a tangle whether he would succeed, Wilson was asked by a journalist whether he would stake his job on BCE becoming profitable in the next 12 months. Wilson said back then, of course he would. But he thought about that level encounter, the more he realized he had replied too fast. "What I should have said," he said later, "was that my job is on the line every day."

It was, and it's because Red Wilson understood that and did what had to be done with grace and costly that he ranks as one of the few Canadian business statesmen of the 1990s. Subal-



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WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS



Personal Finance

Lower fees for the asking

Len Detegan didn't want to do it. For more than a year, he and his wife, Andrea, tried to sell their three-bedroom, two-story home by themselves, trying to avoid the thousands of dollars in commissions they would have to pay a Realtor. The 45-year-old manufacturing business owner expected no shortage of buyers for the renovated Victorian house, which sits serenely on 66 acres of gravelly woodland near Grangeville, Ont., 60 km northwest of Toronto. He advertised in local newspapers and on the Internet.

As the months slipped by, however, no one even phoned to inquire. Gradually, the couple called in a Realtor to finish the job, despite a commission that will add up to about \$47,000. "Sometimes you need an agency," says Detegan, who finally sold his house last week. "But I'd rather be paying that money in my pocket than somebody else's."

Why not? While commission rates vary across the country, the typical fee ranges from one per cent of the home's selling price. And those who attempt to circumvent the system by selling solo often end up concluding, as did Detegan, that commissions are simply the price they have to pay to find a buyer. But increasing competition is giving way to a range of cheaper options, and the brisk demand for homes in some Canadian cities is putting more power in the hands of vendors.

The biggest change took place in 1988, when the Federal Court of Canada, acting on complaints by the Consumers' Association of Canada and other groups, prohibited real estate boards and companies from fixing commission rates. Since then, sellers have had the right to negotiate the commission rate, although brokers rarely publicize the fact. The rate is no longer printed on listing agreements, and sellers are entitled to demand any reduction they want. Agents, however, are not compelled to accept, and

sellers may have to shop around for one willing to accept a lower commission.

Ten years after the court ruling, many sellers are reluctant to negotiate for fear that an agent charging a lower rate may be less committed to selling the house, that in big markets such as Calgary and Toronto, where listings this spring are scarce and houses often sell within days, that should not

look after. And selling agents may spend weeks showing homes to prospective purchasers before making a sale.

One reason agents' fees are so high is the huge cost of maintaining the multiple-listing service database, a comprehensive catalogue of available properties run by real estate boards across Canada. Sellers also end up footing the bill for expensive homeowners who put their properties either on the market or switch to other Realtors. In some cases, agents may advertise a house for months, only to lose the client. "The public doesn't understand how the whole industry operates," says John Kirby, author of the 1997 guidebook *For Sale by Owner*. "It's the system that's flawed."

Nevertheless, cut-rate services have emerged to meet the demand for lower rates. So-called flat-fee brokers, often advertised in local real estate publications, charge a flat fee of less than \$1,000 to list the vendor's home on the MLS system, but provide no additional service. Other companies, known as discounters, offer commission rates as low as 3 per cent.

Vendors who try to skip commissions entirely by selling their own homes often end up disappointed, says Kirby. Most lack the know-how to effectively market their homes. "It's hard work," he says. "It was as simple as putting out a sign, everybody would do it." Kirby estimates that about 70 per cent of full-service-listers ultimately seek the services of a Realtor.

In the end, says Silverstein, most vendors simply want the highest possible price for their home, and are willing to pay for real estate agents who can deliver that. "You've got to feel a close support because you are relying on them to sell what is probably your biggest investment," he says. A fear of dumping that support sometimes discourages vendors from broaching the issue of lower realty fees. But as when buying a home, says Silverstein, it never hurts to negotiate.



REALTY CHECK

Typical commission rates across Canada

Vancouver	6%	on the first \$100,000, 2.5 per cent thereafter
Calgary	6%	on the first \$100,000, 2.5 per cent thereafter
Toronto	6%	
Montreal	7%	for homes under \$200,000, six per cent for those above
Halifax	6%	for homes under \$200,000, five per cent for those above
St. John's, Nfld.	6%	

be a concern, says Alan Silverstein, a Toronto real estate lawyer and author. "Just getting a listing out there is a difficult thing," he says. "Realtors may be more willing to negotiate now."

For consumers, it is usually worth it. After all, a homeowner who invests in little as one per cent of the property will save \$2,000. But those who do should not expect an agent to be grateful. "People feel we can't say no, they don't realize all the work that goes on behind the scenes," says Brenda Maguire, a Calgary Realtor. There are open houses and advertising arrangements to

JOHN SCHOFIELD



Diane Francis

A controversial report that Ottawa ignored

Canada's biggest competitive disadvantage is high taxes. And investors and citizens alike must convince Ottawa that unless the country will cooperate to lower capital and talent to the United States and elsewhere.

Clearly, the Liberals are not listening. They have ignored the recommendations of a treasury task force. Finance Minister Paul Martin established on corporate taxation. The non-partisan independent task force, chaired by University of Toronto economist Jack Mintz, concluded that the combined average corporate income taxes must drop to 35 per cent from 43 per cent if Canada is to become competitive with its trading partners. (The U.S. average is 39 per cent.) "Lowering tax rates towards international norms," the report said, "would provide a positive incentive for business to invest and create jobs here, while also protecting the revenue base."

Personal income tax rates are also excessive, and the average family spends more every year on taxes in total than it spends on housing, food and clothing. The exception is Alberta where the highest personal income tax rate, including the federal portion, is 45.6 per cent. This is compared with combined rates as high as 54.17 per cent in British Columbia or 52.61 per cent in Quebec.

But overtaxation is just a symptom of a deeper problem. Canada remains one of the most overregulated jurisdictions in the world, and high taxes are required to pay for bureaucratic bureaucracy and expensive social programs. We have too many layers of bureaucracy doing too many of the same things. We have too many middle managers and school boards, complicating our lives and adding to costs. We have too many promises. We have too big a federal government.

Compare us with California, which is slightly bigger than Canada, in terms of population and economic size. Californians send to Washington, their capital, two senators and 52 representatives. Canadians send 36 representatives in Ottawa, or 7.5 times more than Californians send to look after their affairs at the federal level. The total U.S. Congress amounts to 535 representatives and senators. But if the Americans sent the same representation proportionally to their federal government as Canadian do, they would have nearly 4,000 people in Congress.

Canada's governments used to be leaner. But the federal sector swelled for the Second World War effort and never shrunk back to its old, decentralist size. Ever since, we have had to pay taxes to support expanding provincial and federal governments as they compete for power. The result has been that neither side has yielded to the other. Both levels squabbling on fact that should be the province preserve of one layer of government as the other. The duplication is enormous.

The federal government is in serious need of downsizing. It need not be involved in health, education, welfare, training, forestry, culture and fisheries. These are adequately handled by the provinces, and the federal role should only be to co-ordinate matters. On the other hand, Ottawa should remain in charge of justice, economic management, international diplomacy, defence, internal security and consular/diplomatic policies.

Such downsizing (and lower taxes) is not in the lexicon of Liberals. But Ottawa is ignoring this need and its task force, which is known as the Technical Committee on Business Taxation. When Martin established it, he asked the group to recommend changes to business taxes that would promote job creation and economic growth, that would simplify the tax system and enhance its fairness. But the minister insisted that any reforms had to be revenue neutral, meaning that the same amount of revenue, \$85 billion to all levels of government in 1995, should come out of corporations in new.

Martin at best ignored the report's findings when they were released last month. The report was no media basting, no press conference, and Parliament was not sitting. It's little wonder. Besides recommending a drop in corporate taxes, the committee suggested that federal business tax breaks should be eliminated, small business taxes should be reduced, and to make up for that shortfall, Ottawa should double the deduction of interest for money borrowed to invest in foreign markets. It also suggested that Ottawa reduce tax incentives for resource companies or manufacturers to match U.S. incentives and cut research and development credits.

Unfortunately, the minister's criteria to the task force was flawed. Tax neutrality—or letting government collect as much from corporations and businesses as it now does—is wrong-headed. Canadians want, and deserve, less government and less interference in their personal and professional lives.

As Reform party leader Preston Manning says succinctly, "Taxes kill jobs." The link between high taxes and high unemployment, and vice versa, is interesting. The United States had 4.8 per cent unemployment in May 1995, and all taxes collected represented 35 per cent of its GDP. Britain had 5.8 per cent unemployment and taxes represented 33 per cent of its GDP. By contrast, France has 12.8 per cent unemployment and taxes collected represent 45.6 per cent of GDP. Canada is in the middle with 9.8 per cent unemployment and taxes at 41 per cent of GDP.

The best government is the least government at the lowest possible cost. And Canada's only hope to eradicate its nagging unemployment problem is to lower taxes dramatically. Anything less means more of the same and all politicians must understand that reality. It's about taxes, stupid.

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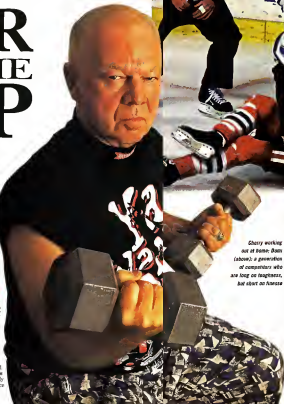
Has Don Cherry gone too far?

BY JAMES DEACON

In Cabby and James Harris are excited as heck. Down from suburban Georgetown, they're spending Saturday night at the main CBC building in Toronto, and they've talked their way into meeting Don Cherry (*Cherry 20/20*). The two boys, both 16, and his dad, John, follow a CBC staffer into a private lounge adjacent to the *Wheeler Night* in Canada set where Cherry, preparing for "Coach's Corner," is rising before going on camera. The kids step into the dimly lit room and, when, it hits them: "Hi guys, how ya doing?" comes the familiar below. It's Don, all right, loud and proud. He's wearing grey flannels, red blazer, red shirt and red tie—can't miss him.

Cherry usually keeps to himself before his between-periods sessions with host Ron MacLean, but for the boys he makes an exception. He blinks, and they like him. "You hockey players?" he asks, rising to greet them. "I am," says Jay, explaining he plays on an atom team. "That's great," says Cherry. He's too distracted for small talk, but he signs a pair of postcards of himself with his beloved English bulldog terrier, Mike. "Thanks for stopping by," he says, "and enjoy the game, eh?" The door closes and the boys pause behind the set to examine their freshly created autographs. James says it was cool meeting the big TV star. "He's," agrees Jay. "My mom doesn't like what he says, but I think he's great."

Out of the mouths of babes, eh? The 64-year-old intermission icon is one of the most watched men in Canada thanks to a remarkable talent for simultaneously entertaining and appalling millions of viewers who tune into *Hockey Night* in Canada on Saturday nights in season. With hockey on nearly every night during the playoffs, his exposure is implicit—also



Cherry working out at home. Don (above): a generation of competitors who are long on toughness, but short on nerves



Cherry on female reporters in the locker room, 1996:

"If you want to be treated like men, then when you do get treated like men, you can't whine. If you can't stand the heat, then stay out of the dressing room."

old April, he has been on every second night, and that will continue until the Stanley Cup is awarded in June. The appeal? Watching Cherry is like watching a lioness tearing next to a lion full of hay. Will he keep the blues contained, or will all hell break loose?

Cherry, of course, thinks fighting is a good thing: European players are stealing jobs away from hardworking Canadian boys, Americans are ruining the NHL, and anyone who thinks differently is a Canadian or an intellectual, or both. He has a strong rapport with players from whom he's learned. "There's not a better guy to know on your side," says Toronto Maple Leafs coach Gary "The Boss." "When he talks on TV, a lot of people listen." And when Cherry drops the bombast, he is a born storyteller who can talk apart a videotape replay to show how a goal was set up by an event at the other end of the ice. "Don's strength is dealing with the game," says *Hockey Night*'s executive producer, John Shannon, "and when he sticks to that, everyone is happy."

But he doesn't stick to the game. He is notorious for his night-of-films rants on get poems ranging from taxes to immigration. And as far as Quebec, well, don't get him started. He claims he is simply taking aim at the separatists, but more often than not national unity feels the pain. His tirades often sound anti-French rather than anti-BQ—at the Winter Olympics last February, he took a cheap shot at Canada's sporting environment flag-bearer, 1994 Olympic gold medalist Jean-Luc Bessard, calling him "a French guy, some idiot nobody knows about." The truth is, Cherry had never heard of Bessard, and knows nothing about freestyle skiing. Later, he compensated the insult, calling separatists "whiners." Rejoice Tremblay, the prominent *Le Presse* columnist, says Cherry appears to be crossing the line between

COVER

casualties and critics. "Don Cherry is a mystery to me," Tremblay says. "The more I've known personally for 20 years, seems infinitely more weird, more open than the guy that we see on television."

Perhaps Cherry is self-destructive. He isn't sure himself. The death of his wife, Rose, of liver cancer last June nearly killed him, too. "And he's still not in great shape," worries Shannon. Cherry cautions his attitude about what he will or will not say in camera has changed since Rose died. "I don't give a shit now, I really don't," he says. It's nice talking to a witness. "Why should I care? People say, 'Don, you're gone too far now,' but I don't care."

He is used to people challenging his politics, but lately they've been questioning something more sacred—his impact on the game. Cherry has come to symbolize Canadian-style hockey—which is to say, *hockey for the masses*. In hockey, the more of Cherry's highly successful ad sales series—at a time when Canada's finest have suffered soul-searching losses at the World Cup in 1996 and the Olympics last February. Cherry says the problems are overlooked. "To me, there's nothing wrong," he says. "I wish we handled the puck a little more, but that's it." He cannot stomach the oft-repeated suggestion that Canada take a lesson from the slick-skating European. "We're teaching kids to block shots, but, God forbid, *style*—we're teaching them all the fundamentals," he says. "The Europeans just go out and score. As long as you get 30 goals, you're a winner."

But as the post-Nagano World, Canadian critics and pundits have acknowledged, this style of hockey only teaches one fundamental: Coaches don't want you to put more emphasis on size and so-called system hockey than on improving puck handling and skating skills (page 38). At the NHL level, the standards have translated into a scandal—disappointed by European, who did not come up to a similarly athletic hockey competition.

Now are the Europeans' success limited to scoring? Does Cherry's insistence that they cannot match Canadian for played competitiveness it was a pair of critics, Russian Alexei Yashin and Swede Daniel Alfredsson, who left the small but swift Ontario Stars in a stunning first-round playoff upset of the big, international New Jersey Devils. (The Senators were among three Canadian teams to score first-round upsets—the Montreal Canadiens and Edmonton Oilers advanced as well.) Alfredsson did duck a decent question about Cherry but it was clear he and the other targets of Cherry's denunciations were thrilled the Senators lost the Devils. "It feels great to come through like this against New Jersey," he said. "Because they're the toughest team out there. And you get the other teams—no one wanted to play them."

How? Merely the man Cherry replaced between periods, says Canadian should have begun rethinking the way hockey is taught, says Yashin. "It's not 1972 was the time to start taking it more seriously, after the Russians showed us how to play the game," Moore says. The need for that reassessment may have been laid in the euphoria surrounding David Henderson's momentous goal that saved the series for Canada. But now the officers are having their day, and there is no occupying the shadow of

LEADING NHL SCORERS 1997-1998

	Goals	Assists	Points
1. Jaromir Jagr, Czech Republic	36	67	102
2. Peter Forsberg, Sweden	25	66	91
3. Paul Bero, Russia	51	39	90
4. Wayne Gretzky, Canada	23	67	90
5. John LeClair, U.S.	53	36	87
6. Dwayne Peltz, Slovakia	45	42	87
7. Ron Francis, Canada	25	62	87
8. Teemu Selanen, Finland	52	34	86
9. Jean Beliveau, Canada	39	68	83
10. Josef Stumpel, Slovakia	21	58	79

Canadians may have been questioned this season, but they dominated the penalty minutes with eight of the 10 most penalized players

NHL LEADERS IN PENALTY MINUTES

1. Donald Brashear, U.S.	372
2. Tim Dowd, Canada	365
3. Krzysztof Olmos, Poland	295
4. Paul Lane, Canada	293
5. Michael Peca, Canada	291
6. Matthew Barnaby, Canada	289
7. Denys Lambert, Canada	256
8. Matt Johnson, Canada	249
9. Sean McCarthy, Canada	242
10. Rob Ray, Canada	234

Yashin against the Devils' shift and speed during one and a half minutes

Cherry. His finger-to-thumb, white-on-white effort has become gospel to master hockey coaches and players. In that way, he has helped build a generation of competitors who are long on work ethic and size, but short on the slick skills and creativity that define truly great players. "That influence can be detrimental, particularly for people who hang on to every word," says Murray Gosselin, president of the Canadian Hockey Association. "And there are many who do."

Ray MacGregor, the respected Ottawa Citizen columnist, author and on-air hockey broadcaster, says he could see the Cherry effect on kids. "His thinking, and his extraordinary influence, has been the single most destructive influence on the development of Canadian hockey," MacGregor says. He adds that Cherry has that power not just because of TV, but "because hockey means so much in Canada, and because people believe in him."

All the outrage and controversy have built quite a little empire. While some say dawning Cherry is an annoying but harmless redneck, like the loudmouth at the end of the bar who might shut up if people just ignore him, it is a monster to underestimate him. And even for committed hockey fans, it is almost impossible to escape him. He has an enormous and fierce—CBC's Saturday night game has averaged an average of 1.5 million viewers since season—and he has been allowed to lead his critics head-on, unrepentant, except when the Atlantic MacLean, the last time, 1990, can get a word in edgewise. So a Rock 'n' Roll Sochi. *En route*—the series now numbers one—how will over a million copies of counting. He drew a nationally syndicated radio show and lends his name to a 12-ounce class, Don Cherry's

Groceries. There there are his own records for several companies, including Nabisco's Mr. Christie products and Campbell's soup. Don Cherry—the self-styled voice of the regular guy—is a very rich man.

The fact is, Cherry's attack is not halfhearted. He has an agenda. His high-decibel, over-the-top delivery may be TV-driven theatrically, much like his wardrobe, but the agenda, the issues he tackles, the edge, are genuine. Cherry. He does not take calls on game days, using the time to put together a "game plan" for that night's show: "Just like when I was coaching." He argues late to the net to get Shannon and MacGregor on home time to enhance. He does his own version of the old TV detective Colorado playing dumb but speaking straight to his co-star's nose: "any people" as he calls them. "He's just giving viewers what they want," says Shannon. "Don would not say the things he says if he didn't think they'd be well received. And he knows his constituency better than most politicians know theirs."

Cherry did all the wrong things on his way to the top. A native of Regina, Ont., he was a career minor-league who bled up his status for nearly one NHL season—no goals, no assists. He retired from the American Hockey League Rochester Americans at 33 to work on a construction crew at the Kodak plant there. Last off, he became, by his own admission, the world's worst Catholic salesman. He left back to the only thing he knew—hockey—meaning a comeback with the Americans at 35 in mid-season, for general manager fired the coach and gave the reins to Cherry. Within 3½ years he was running the Boston Bruins. "I'm coaching Bobby Orr," he says, still incredulous. "Me."

He eventually squandered that would. Never one to listen to his lip, he coached—loosely, he now admits—with Boston general manager Harry Shulman, and got fired after five seasons. He later coached the Colorado Rockies (now the New Jersey Devils) and was fired there, too. Ralph Manley, then the pro-

On whether bullet punches would play in the NHL, 1998: "If Swedes and Finns can play, anybody can play."

On his political views, 1998: "What I say is right. It's not politically right, but I think it's right."

Where for the game, says Bruce Dowd, national sports correspondent for CBC Radio, is that Cherry has been offered to deliver his one-sided message on how hockey ought to be played without rebuke. "Kids take their messages straight," Dowd says. "That's why I build *Wayne* in Canada accountable. They do not offer a counterpoint. I'm not saying 'Take him off the ice.' I'm just saying they should not react to him in a different point of view, someone we will say, 'Wow, you're a clown.'"

Sticking back on an old side in the studio lounge, his other duties gone, Cherry is watching two different playoff games on a bank of TV monitors. He's next to MacLean, who inadvertently wore the same color as he. "It's the first time that's happened in 12 years," Cherry says grumpily. That has not been a happy time for him. It has been a poor season. Ray and he, but he has not yet described the last. He struggled when he and MacLean took their show on the road, to Vancouver for the all-time game in January and to Nagano, Japan, for the Olympics. "I've been lost now for awhile, but I seemed to be more lost over there," Cherry says of his time in Japan. "I used to call Rose every morning, wherever I was, at 8:30 on the nose, and . . . I don't think the thought. The rest of Don Cherry—the subculture, possibly private guy

retiring alone in his now-too-big house in suburban Mississippi—does not want to talk about Rose. Or at least, that's the word before the interview begins. "I think it's a kinder subject," explains CBC political Science Professor "And it may be that way for a long time." But Cherry brings it up himself. She was his best friend, the centre of his daily existence for more than work or hockey. All his adult life, he left the sink or the construction site or the car lot and went home to her, and now she's gone. He hardly knows what to do with himself, says fellow broadcaster Brian Williams, who delivered one of two eulogies at her funeral. "Rose," Williams says, "was his life."

Will Maclean
like a knife
turning not
to a bare ball
of hay



On the prospects of NHL expansion into the New Belt, 1990:

"The only thing those people know about ice down there is when they put it in their drinks."

"When I got out of hockey, I never hung around with anybody. I still don't. I don't have a guy to say 'let's go fishing' or something." Maybe Tim, my son, but I don't have a friend like that. If I ever had advice for anybody, it's to have other friends, and don't isolate yourself or put stress on your wife all the time."

Then he remembers a story that chafes him as Rose, among other things, was the creator. "One time on Coast to Coast, I told Rose to shut up," he says. "Rose just looked at me. 'We wouldn't talk about it when he got home that night, but he heard about it at breakfast.' She said, 'You are, without a doubt, the most ignorant human being I've ever known.'" Cherry laughs a little at the memory. But the smile soon fades.

Without Rose's no-nonsense influence, he has been more provocative on "Coach's Corner." "One time on Coast to Coast, he says he's just saying about what other people—the people—are drinking. 'As far as Quebec's concerned, it's not fair,' he says. 'Everybody knows it's not fair, but they're afraid to say it. We have French signs, and they don't have any English—so that fair.' It is fair that you can't speak English down there anywhere in government, and we have to speak French for our government in Ontario? Everybody says the same thing. They whisper to me, 'If they want to leave, let them leave.'"

Cherry has earned his reputation as the third person of the Montreal Canadiens-Pittsburgh Penguins game. His jacket is off his bar is loosened, his three-story collar is undone, and he's sipping into a Jockey Jug; the gifted Czech centre who led the league in scoring this season, not to mention helping his country win Olympic gold, is in the land of gay people, gay to me—no look here, a powerful sister and luscious nudes—But Cherry claims he's everything that's wrong with the NHL. "The gay can't hit, and never backchecks," Cherry snarls. "The joke is that he has to go down and introduce himself to his goaltender, but he'll get all the trophies and stuff like that."

While his private life is teased down from his TV persona, his opinions remain the same. He really does think European players

are cowardly, that they take stress to drive penalties—conveniently ignoring the fact that "good" North-American Canadian boys do the same. The Philadelphia Flyers' Bill Barber was arguably the most prolific driver in NHL history, and he came from Collingdale, Del. Coach Eric LeComte from Montreal, with Edmonton, once called Cherry "a total rifle" for pointing all imports with the same brush. Cherry has softened a little—he promises to like a pair of Russians, the Senators' Yulkin and the Vancouver Canucks' Pineda there. But he is adamant: the European Canucks? Pineda there. "They call me a racist because I don't want any Europeans coming to play for my Ice Dogs," he says. He doesn't mind depriving his team of a young Yulkin and there? "If a kid comes over here and becomes a Canadian, I'll put him on as a mascot," he says. "But I will not participate here in so that he can grab the money and run."

That, says Dryden, is where Cherry goes wrong, not just his profane corrections, but in hockey, too. By declaring that the old-style Canadian game is best, and that all others are unworthy, he denies his players a chance to learn from the Europeans. "Don't get himself into a box," Dryden says. "The National Hockey League is a far, far better league now that the best players in the world all play here." Harry Mark, a former coach who has become CBC's top game analyst, agrees. "Anyone who thought that Canada was going to be the only supplier of NHL players had blinders on," Mark says. "It's a global game now."

Friends who have watched Cherry lose over greater odds on games wonder if he's trying to get himself fired. At times, he seems fired of the effort it takes to be Don Cherry, tired of the constant criticism. "I'd be lying if I said it didn't wear me down," he says. "You wake up in the morning, you're half-asleep, and you look at the paper and they're ripping you. I like to say I laugh it off, but it gets to me, it bothers me."

His approach to hockey and life, however, were forged years ago in the minor league ice wars. Asked if the Cherry-bashers made him want to quit, he scoffs. "You don't understand—nobody understands. I don't see what they think. It's like a fight—I throw on it. He leans forward, and suddenly his veins are out and he's angry. He is again the guy on TV, pouring cold water on all things Canadian, and all of things Grapes. "When somebody comes to Coach's Corner," he goes on, "I'll come back twice as strong. That's what I did as a player. If I knew going into a game that the best fighter was on the other team, I got me pumped. I have, sooner or later, him and we would be at it. It's the second-best rush in the world, fighting. You know what I mean? It keeps life going." □

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The Reps and Petes
bucking off this line,
creativity beat caution

THE PROVING GROUNDS

BY D'ARCY JENISH

Bobby Orr is sipping Toronto pine and telling stories. The former Boston Bruins great is seated in the lounge of a Thunder Bay hotel, surrounded by a small group of hockey fathers from the southern Ontario city of Peterborough. They listen intently to his story about a certain superstar with a hit contract who, Orr says, works hard only three nights out of 10. And another about 10-year-old St. Louis Blues goalie Grant Fuhr, a fiery competitor eager to start every game. Orr notes details having right aggression during a career that began in 1961. Then, Orr abruptly changes direction—one of his favorite tactics when he was the most disarming defenceman in the world—and offers his thoughts on how to improve minor hockey. “At every level,” he says, “your boys are going to see more size and speed than we need more small guys in the game. We’ve got to let the kids be creative. Let them play like they were not on a goal!”

Orr may be thinking small and creative, but he’s putting his money on size and speed. Now a player agent and partner at Boston-based Wood Associates, one of North America’s largest sports management companies, Orr visited Thunder Bay for three days in early April to watch the Ontario Junior hockey championships—a showcase for 138 of the province’s best 15- and 16-year-olds. He and three other agents all had their eyes on one kid, two-way, 166-lb. Cole King, a local forward regarded as one of the country’s top young prospects. Representatives of seven Ontario Hockey League clubs, the province’s top junior A circuit, also scouted the tournament and were searching for players of similar stature. As Mark Hunter, head coach of the Oshawa Sports Stars and a 12-year NHL veteran, put it: “We’re all looking for a finished product, the kid who’s not too two and can really move.”

The fixation on size and speed, which started in the pros, now drives minor hockey—the system for developing talent in this country. And here many laughter observers tell it, that fixation is stripping the game of its flair and finesse. They say coaches—

even of the earliest age groups—often opt for big, tough players over smaller, skilled ones. They also contend that the structure of elite-level minor hockey, with its heavy emphasis on games, dump-and-use offenses, and highly regimented practices dominated by skating and passing drills, works against the development of a flexibly talented player. Then there are parents, whose win-at-all-costs mentality leads many coaches to employ corner wire, defensive strategies. “It’s a lot harder to learn the creative part of the game,” says Janice McDonald, general manager of the OHL. Rochester Rangers and former director of development for the Calgary-based Canadian Hockey Association. “But we need to work intensely on our skill levels.”

Bobby Orr and most of the other agents and scouts have left Thunder Bay before the Peterborough Petes and Mississauga Reps line up to start the gold medal game of the Ontario Junior hockey championships. The Petes and the Reps have reached the final by compiling better records than five other teams from across the province during the week-long tournament. And from the opening faceoff, the players test the fans, who fill about one-third of the 1,600 seats in the Fort William Gardens, in a high-speed, free-flowing contest that features great goaltending, hard hits, crisp passing and slick displays of puck handling.

But with the Reps ahead 2-0 midway through the second, the flow of the game changes. It becomes a contest between competing approaches to hockey. Mississauga’s head coach Todd Celotto, 35, begins using a popular defensive system—the neutral zone trap—to stifle Peterborough’s offense. Reps forwards dump the puck into the opposing end of every opportunity, then line up across the Petes’ blue-line, with their elbows firm, they back, and wait to break up the attack. Peterborough coaches Paul Crowley and Doug Gibson stick to the free-wheeling, offensive game they had taught their players all season.

On this occasion, creativity prevails over caution. With less

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than two minutes remaining, and the score tied 3-3, a tall, slender Peterborough forward named Ryan Crouley picks up the puck at his own blue line, feeds down the ice and fires a bullet of a shot over the left shoulder of Massachusetts goalie Jim Baccaro. Afterward, as his players celebrate with all the noise and jubilation of Stanley Cup champions, a referee tells Crouley says: "It's a really nice feeling to know that our belief in skill development came through in the end."

In fact, Crouley, 32, and Gibson, 48, both of whom played junior hockey and went on to professional careers, produced a winner by avoiding systems like the neutral zone trap and special-teams for power plays and penalty killing. Instead, they taught all three forward lines and defence pairings to play with a more scholastic or a more smart. They gave their players, with the exception of the rookies, an opportunity to play every position in order to develop a rounded view of the game. They taught individual puck-handling skills, primarily by solving the team on two at the start of each practice and playing old-fashioned sherry for 15 to 20 minutes, which, Gibson says, allows players to try new moves without any fear of making mistakes. "A lot of teams today play very defensive hockey because they're playing 'not to lose,'" says Gibson, whose pro career unfolded one season with the Boston Bruins in the mid-1970s. "We want our kids to be creative."

But many coach-hockey coaches insist that teaching the offensive skills required to play creatively takes time. And most parents want results—now!—from the opening game of the season, which for competitive teams is usually early September. Coaches also respond by teaching defensive systems and the dump-and-fetch offense to cut down on goals against, as well as mistakes. Otherwise, they risk a parental result and a short career behind the bench. Ceballos, the Massachusetts coach, says coaches in the highly competitive Metropolitan Toronto Hockey League face extraordinary pressure to win because parents are free to move their children from team to team. "If you're not successful, people don't stay with you and they won't come to your tryouts," he says. "Two years ago, I took over this team after they named the playoffs and I had two returning players."

Others maintain that children today play too many games—40 to 80 per season is the norm at all levels of competitive hockey—and spend too little time practicing to develop offensive skills. McDonald says the CHA tried in 1985 to address the problem by recommending a 2:1 ratio of games to practices. He says few, if any, of the 3,500 local minor-hockey associations across the country have adopted the policy. Furthermore, McDonald says, many coaches should rethink their approach to practices. "They have to start allowing five star minutes that usually runway drill after drill," he says. "Because outdoor rinks have almost vanished at many parts of the country And that's where kids traditionally learned to handle the puck."

Michael Colgan and his Peterborough Pines teammates have a free afternoon during the Thunder Bay tournament, and they head for a bowling alley near their hotel. It is a welcome break in



THE KIDS' GAME

NUMBER OF KIDS (AGES 4 TO 20) PLAYING CANADIAN MINOR HOCKEY: 484,000

GIRLS' PARTICIPATION IN MINOR HOCKEY 1987-1988: 7,308 1993-1994: 25,300

BIGGEST LEAGUE: METROPOLITAN TORONTO HOCKEY LEAGUE: 31,313

AREAS PER CAPITA (per 1,407 in Canada, 35,546 in the United States, 403,234 in the U.S.)

NHL'S FIRST DRAFT CHOICE, 1997
Name: Jon Thornton Team: Boston Bruins
Born: London, Ont. Position: Centre
Height: Six feet, four inches Weight: 215 lb.

NHL'S FIRST DRAFT CHOICE, 1997
Name: Dale McCourt Team: Detroit Red Wings Born: Peterborough, Ont.
Position: Centre Height: Five feet, 10 inches Weight: 180 lb.

CURRENT ODDS OF MAKING THE NHL
Less than 1 in 1,000

Craigen acknowledges that "my size is a barrier" to making the NHL

a long season filled with dozens of games and non-workday practice. But Craigen, the team's aggressive captain, loves the game enough to spend many additional hours on an outdoor rink near his home in Lakeshore, Ont., 10 miles north of Peterborough. He works on his shooting, shooting and stickhandling, and he dreams of sticking into "the big show," as he calls the National Hockey League. But Craigen knows that ability alone won't get him there. He needs the size, and at five feet, seven inches, he doesn't have it. "I'm a 'club player,'" he says. "I can't do the size well, but individually, my size is a barrier. I'm the smallest guy on the team."

Brad Boyes, on the other hand, has the height necessary to keep his hockey dream alive. The talented Mississauga Bulls centre is not just tall, but weighs nearly 175. Over the winter, he plans to add 10 lb. of muscle, through a combination of diet and weight training, which should give him the left to play Tier II junior next season. And he considers himself lucky. "I have a couple of friends who score a goal or two every game, and they won't get drafted by a junior team because they're under six feet," says Boyes. "Then you see big guys who are less skilled getting drafted. It's really frustrating."

Obviously, at some point, there are an height and weight requirements for advancing to junior or making that first step into the NHL. "There's still a place in this game for everybody," says Hunter during a break from his scouting activities at the Thunder Bay tournament. "But the bigger kid is going to get the break. He's going to get the extra look." And as for the tall Peterborough Indians between signs of his teenage glory. "I'm sure, you've got to be special to make it." In the age of size and speed, it seems, talent alone is not enough. □

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WHAT MATTERS TO CANADIANS

People

Edited by
TANYA DAVIES

'In trouble' and disgraced

In 1966 Anne Petrie found herself "in trouble," as the legs of those more puritanical ladies put it. She was an (almost 4-year) pregnant, a situation then considered utterly disgraceful. A 24-year-old student at the University of British Columbia, away from her adoption (Toronto-born Petrie had fallen in love with an older, married man). Their secret relationship was over by the time she discovered that she was carrying a child. Her reserved middle-class parents decided that her best option was to hide the pregnancy by moving into a house for unwed mothers. So Petrie entered the Salvation Army's Maywood Home for Girls in Vancouver, bringing along with her "guardians" until the arrival of her son on June 30, 1967. She never fully gave him up for adoption. That wrenching experience was overshadowed by the sexual revolution of the late 1960s and early 1970s. Now veteran CBC broadcaster Petrie, 51, currently host of Calgary-based *Anne's Friday Talk* TV on Newsworld, conjures up the shame and anguish in her new book, *Given to an Aunt*.

Petrie tells her story and those of six other women who, between 1960 and 1970, secretly bore children in religious-run homes and gave them up. "You either had just an illegal abortion or had a shotgun wedding," she recalls. Since the book hit the stores late last month, Petrie has been inundated with calls and letters from women who either went through the ordeal or knew someone who did. "The reaction of something like this goes way out there," she says. "It affected so many people."

After giving birth, Petrie went on with her life, graduating from UBC and becoming a journalist. It wasn't until she turned 40 that she realized something was missing. "I started to wonder, 'Why am I not married? Why don't I have kids? How did I get to this place?'" That started several years of exploring how losing a child had per-



Petrie shares nuggets for many who were asked more in their youth

lyzed her emotionally. She says that in 1980, when she was involved with her son through a B.C. adoption registry service, she finally understood the meaning of unconditional love. But Petrie adds, "He was brought up by wonderful people, they're his parents. We have a pleasant relationship, but he has a family."

Petrie notes that all but one of the women in the book recognized anonymity. "So many of them still felt shame. They still didn't want people to know."

A gem on his own

Super-singer **Steve Forzi**'s relationship with the pop superstar **Jewel** has many facets. The Halifax native met Jewel Kitcher in 1992, when she was waitressing at a Poughkeepsie, N.Y., coffeehouse where he was performing, and they have been linked ever since. "We became fast friends, started surfing together, going to Mexico on trips and writing songs," says San Diego-based Forzi, 38, who also became romantically involved with the Alaska native. "It was about that time we wrote 'You Were Meant for Me.' That



Forzi, Jewel's close friend and co-writer

1995 Jewel song has become the longest-charting single in the history of music magazine *Billboard*'s Hot 100. Since then, the two have cooled their romance but remain close friends and co-writers. Forzi's newly released solo debut, *One Left Stone*, features 29-year-old Jewel both as a guest singer and co-writer of four songs.

Forzi, the son of an air-conditioner salesman who, 30 years ago, moved the family to Palm Springs, Calif., still has relatives living in the Halifax area. "I'm the American cousin who moved away as a little boy," says Forzi, who returns to Halifax every summer. "I'm sure I would have been so different if I had grown up there. I probably would have been playing hockey! And maybe even writing romantic and personal songs about it."



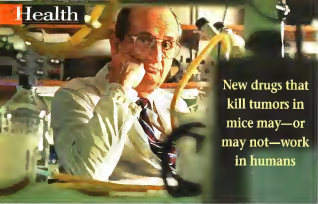
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CHATELAINE WHERE CANADIAN WOMEN GET IT ALL TOGETHER.



New drugs that
kill tumors in
mice may—or
may not—work
in humans

Folkman: it may be 18 months before human trials start for drugs that can eradicate cancer in mice by cutting off tumors' blood supply

Cautious excitement

BY MARK NICHOLS

The grandfatherly American with thinning hair who addressed cancer scientists in a Montreal hotel earlier this month did not look like someone about to set off an international media frenzy. Dr. Joshua Folkman talked about his work in a fast-developing field that seeks to defeat cancer not by destroying the tumors themselves but by attacking the blood vessels which nourish them. With very humor, Folkman talked about the difficulty he had a few years back persuading someone in his Boston laboratory to take on an assignment that could easily have ended in failure—everybody on his team was just too busy. In the end, the study was done, paving the way for prototype drugs that can virtually obliterate tumors in mice with negligible side effects, and without encountering the defenses that frustrating cancer cells often throw up. “Most of us already knew about Judah’s work,” said Dr. Loren Brånberg, a Winnipeg cancer researcher who heard Folkman in Montreal. “So none of this was earthshaking news. It looked impressive—but so far the results are only in mice.”

Beyond the confines of the cancer-research community, however, it was a sensation. After a May 3 article in *The New York Times* described the new drugs—angiostatin and endostatin—a media earthquake rocked Folkman and his laboratory at Boston Children’s Hospital. The massive coverage, in turn, prompted telephone calls from cancer patients to physicians and to numerous pleading for access to the drugs. At the U.S. National Cancer Institute’s Bethesda, Md., director Dr. Richard Klausner called Folkman’s findings “the

single most exciting thing on the horizon” for treating cancer. He promised fast-track handling for human trials of the drugs—although of Bethesda’s Rockville, Md.-based Bayer Med Inc., which will manufacture them, and it could be up to 18 months before enough is available to begin wide-scale human testing.

Even if trials show the drugs to be safe and effective in humans, several years could pass before they win regulatory approval and begin reaching patients. But the uncertainties and the time factor were no deterrent to investors who saw a winning drug in the making. Bayer Med shares, trading on the Nasdaq network, soared to around \$115 from \$17.85 before settling back to \$47.88 by week’s end.

Amid the euphoria, cancer experts—including a Canadian physician who played a role in Folkman’s work—were vitally anxious in stressing that the new drugs might not work as well in humans as in mice. “These findings have to be treated with extreme caution,” said Dr. Robert Kerbel, a researcher at Toronto’s Sunnybrook Health Science Centre whose earlier suggestion of a strategy to defeat at least one advance in cancer was made good by Folkman’s work. “We have a long history of drugs that can do a great job of attacking cancer in rodents—but don’t work as well in humans.” Aggravated dismayed by the frenzy of media attention, Folkman himself avoided a speaking engagement in Boston and issued a caution of his own. “We know the patients work on mice,” he said. “But the important thing is determining whether they will work on people.”

Among cancer sufferers, including those in Canada, where an esti-



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Our lady in Havana

BY ANDREW PHILLIPS

There are photographs, a score of them, padding for space up the grand piano in the darkened drawing room. Framed in silver, they show musicians from another age, classical icons of mid-century like Sir Thomas Beecham and Andrea Segovia. Mostly, though, they show the women of the house, elegantly clad and coiffed in the styles of the 1950s and '60s, holding the camera's eye with a steadily seductive gaze. They leave no doubt, in her day, Mary McCarthy was a looker.

Times change, and not always for the better. Decades after her youthful beauty was captured on film, Mary McCarthy would consider a visit to her house, a handsome mansion on the outskirts of Havana where the pampered rich lived a long, long time ago—before Fidel Castro's revolution swept all that away. Like the rest of the city, Villa Mary has seen better days. The same is true of the wrought-iron gates, and

Memories survive in the decay of Cuba

McCarthy in her heyday, and now that, Fidel is no fool, you know



ing for photos with the Prime Minister and the wife, Alita. A few days earlier she had celebrated her birthday. She will admit, a bit grudgingly, only to being "over 80." But friends in St. John's know that she is doing in on a century, and her passport shows that, in fact, she has just turned 95.

McCarthy has met Castro several times ("a very intelligent man") and even knew his legendary lieutenant, the romantic rev-

olutionist Ernesto ("Che") Guevara ("a most vivid person"). But the revolution of 1959 was not kind to her. Fashions owned by her late husband were auto-shredded (Catalan, really), she says under her heavily. For years, she could not leave Cuba for fear that everything she wore would be seized while she was away. Now, she can come and go, and makes it back to St. John's most winters. But she has stayed on in Havana, living alone in Villa Mary, directing her garden-hands in rapid-fire Spanish. "People ask, 'Dear Mary, why do you stay?' They look so much from you." But I don't miss Fidel," she says. "He's done so much for the Cuban. And as the years go by it gets so much harder to pull up stakes."

For Canadians in the know, especially Newfoundlanders, stopping in at Villa Mary is as much a part of doing Havana as a night of the dancers at the Tropics. The record of her career from St. John's has travelled in and Margaret Atwood, a frequent traveller in Cuba, was a recent guest. When Jean Chretien journeyed to Havana in late April, McCarthy turned out to a reception at the residence of Canadian Ambassador Keith Christie, pos-



sessionary Ernesto (Che) Guevara ("a most vivid person"). But the revolution of 1959 was not kind to her. Fashions owned by her late husband were auto-shredded (Catalan, really), she says under her heavily. For years, she could not leave Cuba for fear that everything she wore would be seized while she was away. Now, she can come and go, and makes it back to St. John's most winters. But she has stayed on in Havana, living alone in Villa Mary, directing her garden-hands in rapid-fire Spanish. "People ask, 'Dear Mary, why do you stay?' They look so much from you." But I don't miss Fidel," she says. "He's done so much for the Cuban. And as the years go by it gets so much harder to pull up stakes."

It began in St. John's, where McCarthy's father was a prosperous merchant on Water Street. She attended Catholic schools run by the Order of the Sisters of Mercy, and showed early talent as a pianist and singer. Her family sent her off to study music in Boston. There, at the opera one night, she was seated next to a businessman from Spain named Pedro Gomez Lucia. He was short, balding and a dozen years older. McCarthy recalls Rev. Kevin Mulvey, an old friend in St. John's, was "tall and glaucous, absolutely stunning." Gomez pursued her. They married and moved to Havana, where Gomez's company ran shoe and leather fac-

tories. In a wealthy suburb called Country Club Park, he built the villa for her, with her name worked into the gates and the treble music tiles outside.

Mid-century Havana was a playground for the wealthy Europeans and Latin Americans settled there, and elegant hotels like the Sevilla and the Nacional remain its monuments to that time, and the decay that in the legacy of four decades of communism. McCarthy formed a group called Los Amigos de la Musica, and brought some of Europe's most famous conductors and performers to Havana, even such as Beecham and Segovia. She was vice-president of the city's symphony, and her house became a salon for musicians, artists and senior churchmen.

Gomez died in 1955, but McCarthy remained in Havana, busy with music and the occasional writer (an ambassador from Peru took particular interest in her, she recalls). Four years later, Castro's revolution swept away her rich Cuban friends. The high life came to a sudden end and McCarthy's music society ceased to be. The other emigrants in Country Club Park (now called Cochenes, a less beautiful neighbourhood) cooped out as her neighbors fled to Miami, New York City and Madrid. Eventually only McCarthy was left. "No one thought Fidel would last," she recalls now. "They didn't

think the American would allow communism in Cuba. They thought they'd be able to come back and take up where they'd left off. Well, he's still here and they're still there." Castro's government seized the vacant villa and moved them back to former embassies in residences for as much as \$10,000 a month. "Fidel is no fool, you know," she says.

She stayed, too, because her husband is buried in Havana's famed Cuban cemetery, where Cuban musicians, intellectuals and other notable are memorialized with ornate tombs and mausoleums. If he had been alive when Castro took over, they would have joined the masses. "Fidel was very deliberate, very right-wing," she says. "He would never have lived under communism." But since he has under Cuban rule, she will stay on until the end.

For someone who has lost so much, McCarthy takes a remarkably sanguine view of Castro's revolution. When the rich still held sway, she witnessed the misery of ordinary people under the dictatorship of Fulencio Batista. She believed she would see the revolution in 1959. The guerrillas swept into Havana in 1959.

With the perspective of many decades, McCarthy reflects on all that as she pours a glass of red wine in a faded sunroom that has small reminders of home—a picture of a Moscow on the wall, and two small Cuban trees which were planted behind the bar "Baitana," she says wistfully, "was just a terrible pain. The Cubans didn't have roads or schools or hospitals. If someone fell ill, they had to put him on the back of a donkey and bring him to the city. Half the time, of course, they died on the way. Now, every little village has its doctor. Fidel has done really more good things than bad. And whatever he's taken he's put back into the country. You have to give him that."

She gets up to fetch coffee, shaped but still quick on her feet. She makes her way to church every Sunday, and uses hope and change—especially after Pope John Paul II's visit to Cuba in January. "Fidel is a very thoughtful man, you know," she says. "And although he's no atheist, I think he has Christian inclinations. I think in the end he'll be convinced there can be social justice with God." In the meantime, she stays on, a remnant of the capitalist profits that history can take—near Mary in Havana. □

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The taxman relenteth

Company-paid education gets a break

Fred Genella was 32 when his bosses at Ispco Inc., the Boston-based steel-wire, sent him back to school for a management degree at the University of Pittsburgh. "It was a tough haul," he recalls of the two-year executive MBA program he completed in 1994. He lost his engaging job at Ispco, commuted every two weeks to Pittsburgh and studied early in the mornings and on weekends. "Thankfully," he says, "my kids were grown." Genella received his degree, switched to the marketing side at Ispco at the same salary and, for his pains, was hit by the taxman late last year. Revenue Canada determined that the money Ispco spent retaining Genella for a new job in the company was "a taxable benefit to the employee," and tacked him with a \$30,000 bill. For good measure, they threw in not just the cost of tuition, but the "benefit" spent on travel and accommodations as well.

Ispco was outraged. "I think this is a travesty," says Ispco vice-president Maria Della Vecchia. "It is completely counter to all the chiding they in Ottawa do on the business of lifelong learning." Other corporations took up the cause. So did the country's largest business schools. And late last week, after nearly five months of concerted lobbying, the taxman relented. Revenue Minister Herb Doherty introduced new guidelines, retroactive to the 1997 assessments and all pending appeals, which now assume that company-paid courses are for the benefit of the employer, even if they result in a degree and are pursued on personal time. The exceptions are courses that are clearly for the personal satisfaction of or for family members. "I just wanted to make sure we put some common sense into our rules," says Doherty. "Clearly our government is pushing very hard on education. We are saying, 'Adapt our guidelines to the new realities out there.'"

The new rules mean Genella has until April, 1998, to apply for a reimbursement of his \$30,000 tax bill. But others, depending on when they were assessed or when they completed their appeals, may be out of luck. To show that it was not playing favorites, Revenue Canada billed two of its own auditors after they went back to school for ac-



Genella: Trying to reject some common sense

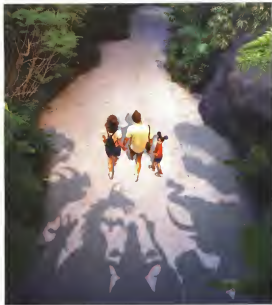
counting credits required for advancement. The department had paid the approximately \$1,200 tuition costs in both cases, as well as chipping in for some computer equipment—41 part of a government program to encourage education. But at the end of the year, the department wrongly attached the amounts to the two employees' T4 slips as a taxable benefit and handed back a portion of the costs. The two appealed in the spring of 1997, but in January, tax court Judge A.A. Szwedlik turned them down and ruled that unless an employee is "legally obliged or faced with job-loss consequences [he failed to upgrade his skills], employer-paid education is a taxable benefit to the employee."

Now that ruling has been overturned by the new guidelines. The Business Council on National Issues, the voice of the country's 150 most powerful corporations, had been lobbying Revenue Canada for a change, arguing that it was ludicrous to consider employee training with such benefits as company-supplied cars or country club memberships—which is what the taxable benefit is supposed to capture. And for the country's major universities, the change of heart brings a huge sigh of relief.

Whether at the senior Baiff School of Advanced Management in Alberta or in more prosaic video-conferencing rooms around the country, business schools have been luring middle-risk executives into premium-priced management training or executive MBA programs. At the University of Ontario's Ivey School of Business, the executive MBA programs—where much of the tuition is paid by corporate sponsors—puffs in a substantial \$30 million a year, says associate dean Larry Wyman. That money, in turn, subsidizes Ivey's undergraduate business courses.

Queen's University in Kingston, Ont., has one of the most expensive executive training programs in North America, according to dean's Brian Dineen. The country's top most-800 schools of one- and three-weeks duration each year. In the two-year executive MBA program, roughly 70 percent of the participants are either fully or partially financed by their companies or government agencies. "We used to think the old tax policy enhanced Canada's competitive position," says Donald Nightingale, director of the executive MBA program. "This is absolutely welcome."

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A PAINTER PASSING THROUGH
Gordon Lightfoot
(Reprise/Vanguard)

After more than a decade on the sidelines of pop music, singer-songwriter Gordon Lightfoot, who turns 60 this year, seems indispensable again. Proof can be found in the number of younger Canadian artists discovering and recording his songs, including Sarah McLachlan, Ron Sexsmith and the Rheostatics. Another sign is Lightfoot's latest album *A Painter Passing Through*, which bristles with youthful urgency. Songs like the edgy *My Little Love*, about a hungry street musician, and *Flowlines*, punctuated by Daniel Lanois's peering guitar, reveal a surprisingly younger Lightfoot. And the autobiographical *Uncle Todd's Band* about a garden toad that serves as moral guardian to a house of young partyers, may be his most comical song to date. Despite a few duds, the album is easily the artist's strongest in years. There's even one piece of Canadiana, *Afternoon Love*, that seems destined to become another Lightfoot classic.

SILENT RADAR
The Waitresses
(GMM)

The Waitresses are Winnipeg's answer to R.E.M. Like the superstar group from Athens, Ga., they are indie rockers fronted by a moody singer who favors cryptic sounds over decipherable lyrics. The connection goes even deeper on *Silent Radar*, The Waitresses's fourth album. The Canadian band teamed up with U.S. producer

Adam Kasper, who has worked with R.E.M. in the past, and he helps bring a looser, more laid-back feel to the songs that he does nothing to help. Daniel Gorenfeld clearly has words. Although the group is steadily maturing, Gorenfeld could use a different role model than R.E.M.'s renowned member, Michael Stipe.

NAVY BLUES
Sloan
(Nonesuch/Universal)

In the past, Sloan has won both critical and commercial success, but never at the same time. The Halifax quartet's second recording, *Four Seasons*, was number 1 on a 1996 Chart magazine poll of people in the music industry to determine the top 50 Canadian albums of all time. But the release sold poorly—unlike the group's next, 1996 album, *One Good in Another*, which earned sales of 80,000. Now, Sloan may be able to enjoy both. "It's funny how you get a feel for it, when you finally lose your sense of fear," says Patrick Pentland, an Iggy & Azusa, from the band's new, fourth album. *Four Seasons* is a good way to describe *Navy Blues*, which spans everything from the rockish bark of *Six Six* (*What She Ate*) to the waddy operatic *Smoking Ships*. But Sloan is still largely a pop-rock band with a taste for lush, Beatlesque melodies. And most of the album is devoted to either sunny tunes or relentless rockers. In fact, there's hardly a weak track to be found—a sign that Sloan may have finally produced a pop masterpiece.

NICHOLAS JENNINGS

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Music

Celtic and eclectic

BY DIANE TURBIDE

The Rankins may have dropped "Family" from their stage name, but, of course, the word has taken on a new dimension. Last week, as Raylene Rankin sat in a Vancouver hotel doing telephone interviews to promote *Upstream*, the five siblings' latest recording, she was interrupted by the cry of a three-month-old Alexander Colvin, her first child. The 37-year-old singer decided to take the infant along on a three-week western tour rather than be separated from him. "Babies are pretty portable at this age, and I have a young man to help me," said Raylene. "The tour's been arranged so that the drives between concert stops are short." Alexander seems to be starting his life the same way his mother and her sisters and brothers did — steeped in a mix of traditional Celtic and contemporary music.

A Vancouver hotel room is a long way from the kitchen in Mabou, Cape Breton Island, where the Rankin children, all 13 of them, grew up listening to fiddlers and singers. And the distance from Halifax, where four of the five performers now reside, is matched by the distance they've traveled professionally since their first release in 1989. To date, the group's recordings have sold nearly two million copies in Canada. With a repertoire that ranges easily from traditional Gaelic ballads, fiddle tunes and reels to crystal songs with a country-rock flavor, The Rankins have won dozens of awards, including the Juno. Known for their dense, earnest-sounding harmonies, they've seven albums (eight, if the women's 1997 Christmas album is counted) have earned them a devoted crowd of haremcore fans and a devoted following in Britain and in the eastern United States. *Already, Moved On*, the single released late last month, has reached No.1 on Canadian country music charts.

All under 40, fiddler/bassist and fiddler John Morris is the eldest at 38, singer Heather is the youngest at 30. The Rankins are nonetheless veterans of a lively East Coast music scene. The '90s have brought a strong wave of Maritime acts, from "alternative" rockers Sloan to R.E.M. singer-songwriter Lennie Gallant. But the Celtic music craze is a particularly strong current, encompassing everything from traditional Cape Breton fiddling to techno-pop ballads of Gaelic songs and elec-

The Rankins continue to push beyond their roots



Cordier (left), Jimmy, Raylene, John Morris, Heather: a mother's quest, a new baby, an on-stage image

tric pulses. Fiddlers extraordinaire Ashley MacIsaac and Natalie MacMaster, singer Mary Jane Lamond, and such groups as Great Big Sea, The Barra MacNeils and Rowan Cross have incorporated Celtic influences to varying degrees, each producing a distinctly different sound. "I think the popularity of the music is a sign of the times," says Jimmy Rankin, 33, the group's main songwriter. "And you, right now Celtic music, it's all in vogue. It's very popular, and it may be reaching a peak. On the other hand, it's been around for a thousand years, so it'll probably always be around."

Raylene argues that the Cape Breton version of traditional Celtic music and step dancing is itself an amalgam of Irish, Scottish and Acadian influences, and that very diversity has kept the tradition more alive in Eastern Canada than in the old country. "Step dancing is a good example," she says. "There's very little of it in Scotland any more, but it's very much alive in Cape Breton. I think it shows that even if you tradition to continue, it has to grow and change."

That philosophy is reflected in *Upstream*, which includes a stronger focus on individual voices, a songwriting debut from Heather and an almost fully quality to a couple of the Celtic-

The new album appears after the group's anniversary bustle from touring. During that year, the band members wrote six songs and arrangements for the new album. In the fall, the three artists worked on a separate

located a few blocks from the historic St. John's harbor, George Street is a weekend playground for Newfoundland youth—and the young at heart. For much of the day, the area is somber. But between 10 p.m. and 2 a.m., residents by the hundreds gather on George Street to enjoy the sounds of country, blues, reggae and traditional Newfoundland music coming out from the packed pubs that line the street. This is where the four members of the Red Sea cut their musical roots. "It's a very Caribbean style that predominate[s] commands the listener to lead the dance floor now, with two popular CDs [each has sold more than 200,000 copies] and a loyal fan base across Canada, Newfoundland's folk fans are ready to launch their own American invasion. It begins on June 2 with the release of their first American CD, *Road and Rise*, followed quickly by an concert dates with Sweeney Gnarner and The Chilterns in November, and then touring New York City, Los Angeles and Chicago. "By the time we get to the 100th anniversary of Newfoundland's birth, we'll have a great disc," says Gnarner. The band's most instrumentalist, Bob Hallett, "has built our career on being as unimpeachable as the folk."

Formed in 1993, after each of the band members—Halliwell, Alan Doyle, Daniel Power and Sean McCann, now all in their late 20s—had worked their way through Memorial University by playing the St. John's bar scene, Great Big Sea represents a self-conscious attempt to bring the infectious rhythms of traditional Newfoundland music to a larger audience. As performed at intimate parties and in dark, smoky pubs, the music is a unique blend of Irish, Scottish, English and French-Canadian influences. Great Big Sea delivers it all with a loud-and-proud pop sensibility—it is no accident that band members could make the showy 1970s group Queen among their

actors of Christmas fire. *Do You Have*, released last November. Heather put her Acadia University theatre training to work, playing a small part in *The Hissing Garden*, Thom Fitzgerald's much lauded film directing debut. Three of them contributed to albums by other East Coast musicians, and the women participated in an international documentary called *Golden Throat*, to be aired on CBC.

The years ended with the death area cancer of the *Realones'* 68-year-old mother, Kathleen. She had nursed her children in his crib right up until the end. And before EMI Music Canada signed the group to a major contract in 1992, she had operated a small distribution company selling *The Realones'* independently produced albums on Cape Breton Island. Kathleen and Alexander (Daddy) Realone & company were dead in 1994) are pictured on the *Unraveled* CD case, a young couple dressed in a maternity store. "During that photo in K was a tribute to our parents, the last lives to our children," says Cooke. "And, for me, the *Unraveled* title symbolizes a kind of closure."

But sister Kaylene says the world has rather resisted for her. From the countryish opening tune "Mawr" On to the last cut, a traditional Scottish ballad called "Kinnel" to Lochbar, the album moves lucidly from time through a unique Cape Breton heritage. she notes. "Lochbar is the area of Scotland from where my father's family emigrated, so, or seven generations ago, it was *our* Scotland, too." —*the press* 80

The album starts off with a song called "Material" on the album shows a lot of progress from the first single to another in the Cage Brexton genre.

The album is a different kind of progression to a different kind of music. They are less inclined to knock off the local spirit of their act, preferring to think of themselves in the mainstream way happened in the 1980s. Cage Brexton, like others, owns the CD's new design, which is a shift from the wholehearted to a darker, more subtle style. With a local fan base, Cage Brexton and others, remarkable design style, and energy to burn, The Redskins are not so much as a first step, but a first step in the Canadian success.

musical job. "From very early on, we felt that Newfoundland music would benefit from a high-energy performance," says vocalist and guitarist Doyle. "We wanted to make it as universal as possible."

Using a self-titled 1993 CD as their calling card, Great Big Sea set out to conquer mainland Canada. After establishing a beachhead in Halifax, they worked their way westward on the pub and festival circuit. "We made our fans the old-fashioned way—one at a time," Hugh's Doyle. Rentless touring—the band played over 300

the 1996 CD, *Us*, and 1997's *Play A Day* broke came at the 1996 East Coast Music Awards when the four were named entertainers of the year, beating out acts like Ashley MacIsaac and The Rankins. Great Big Sea has taken home that trophy each year since, alongside up four other awards in Fisheries as well.

The group's strategy for taking the United States is somewhat different. They hope *Riot and Revolt*, which includes selections from both *Up and Phyll*, will garner some mainstream U.S. radio air-side exposure. The concerts with O'Connor and The Chiffons are intended to get the band across, most exposure to the type of folk and blues audiences that have been the band's traditional base. "Big Sam" Weir didn't want to include any lyrics to "Guns and the Music of Power." "We wanted to get our music in front of the people, and it looks like that is going to happen this summer."

But the musicians are determined to stay rooted in St. John's. "It's where friends and family live, and where they draw their inspiration. It's the playing of a form of music that's greater than ourselves," says Doyle. "We're not going to leave this place. We're going to spread the word to a culture in general about how about."

BRIAN STEIGMAN, *of Austin*

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The new crop
of garden guides
will turn
thumbs green

Pages in bloom

BY BARBARA WICKENS

Like many of the plants they write about, Canada's garden writers are a lively lot, referring reliably to spring with fresh allegories. Maclean's new writer and leading gardener Barbara Wickens reviews the best of the 1998 crop.

Pocket Gardening: A Guide to Gardening in Impossible Places
By Marjorie Harris
(HarperCollins, 288 pages, \$29.95)

One of Canada's most popular and prolific garden writers, Marjorie Harris has penned everything from sweeping how-to books to tiny tracts on the do's and don'ts of herb lawns. Her new, well-illustrated guide, she tackles a problem specific to many urban gardeners: spaces that are too small or too dark, or have soil that is too poor to grow anything. But to Harris, people with a knack for making things grow should not let any obstacles interfere. "Garden anywhere, everywhere," she writes. "Test be sure to garden somewhere. It will change your life, improve your attitude and make you a better person all around."

Lucky claim, for sure, but *somebody* Harris makes it seem possible. Some of her advice, about the importance of planning, for instance, applies to any garden. That she also targets her tips, providing a recipe for a lightweight, soilless mix for balcony container gardening. One caveat: the 16-color photos are not well integrated with the text. Otherwise, *Pocket Gardening* is a little gem for anyone not blessed with perfect soil or elegant vistas.

Grow Wild! Native Plant Gardening in Canada
By Lorraine Johnson
(Random House, 264 pages, \$26.95)

A growing trend among North American gardeners is to plant species that thrived before European settlers arrived in the 1500s. In *Grow Wild!*, Toronto author and environmentalist Lorraine Johnson offers a compelling explanation for the newfound popularity of native plants. They evolved over thousands of years, she writes, and are ideally adapted to their local environments. For the farmer, that can mean a lighter workload, since the plants require minimal care. For the gardener, it means a wider array of indigenous herbs, berries and butterflies. The book's sections devoted to landscaping and the use of native plants include the corresponding guide. The first two plant groups, trees and shrubs, are the most common. She emphasizes that native plants—such as the brilliant red cardinal flower or the sculptural candelabra spirea—are also beautiful.

In *Grow Wild!*, Johnson divides North America into three ecoregions: the Northwest, with its lush coastal forests and dry (or even) leaf and flower attributes, bright and spread, interior grasslands, the Prairie, which extend even into a small section of southwestern Ontario, and the Northeast, with its towering woodlands and sunny meadows. The book, with more than 100 color photos by Toronto's Andrew Leyerle, includes native plant lists for each of the three ecoregions, as well as a practical appendix on how to start a native plant garden. There are also 30 profiles of indigenous plants of Canada. *Grow Wild!* is a valuable addition to a plant aficionado's. Score—like *Wassinger* (Barry Pearce, who's under the library

replaced his *Wassinger* lives with prime grasses and wildflowers—have gone totally native. Others have been more cautious. Frank Kennedy, for instance, has incorporated traditional and modern people into his conventional Toronto garden. A great book for gardeners who want to be part of an ecological trend—or just try something new.

The Art of Personal Gardening: Creative Ways with Hardy Flowers
By Patrick Lima
(Dorland, 176 pages, \$24.95)

Patrick Lima's 1987 book, *The Modern Garden*, has become a Canadian classic, with more than 150,000 copies in print. His new sequel, *The Art of Personal Gardening*, shows how Lima's strategies—and the successful garden in Ontario's Bruce Peninsula he shares with his partner, photographer John Scuderi—have evolved in the past decade. In a breezy, conversational style, Lima devotes chapters to such topics as early and mid-summer color and pushing the limits of hardiness zones. He writes knowledgeably about individual plants and pays special attention to creative planting combinations. But he also urges readers to see the bigger picture. "We make that a garden is only as beautiful as the ensemble effect—the sum of its parts—we begin to define our style," he writes. "Creating color photographs really helps make that point. With its visual appeal and helpful text, *The Art of Personal Gardening* could become another classic."

Reader's Digest A-Z Encyclopedia of Garden Plants
Edited by Christopher Brickell, Trevor Cole, Judith Cole
(Reader's Digest, 1,088 pages, \$79.95)

One introductory section of this massive tome is bolder for the publisher, since it references how to identify the real difference between spear-shaped and arrow-shaped leaves. There are also a wide array of indigenous herbs, berries and butterflies. The book's sections devoted to landscaping and the use of native plants include the corresponding guide. The first two plant groups, trees and shrubs, are the most common. She emphasizes that native plants—such as the brilliant red cardinal flower or the sculptural candelabra spirea—are also beautiful.

MULCHING AND METAPHYSICS

Many garden writers focus on the practical—the what and the how of growing. One Kennedy gardeners to accentuate the why. Not that Kennedy, who was an A-1 gardener that he and his wife, Sandy, lived from the wilderness on British Columbia's Denman Island, can't get down in the dirt with the best of them. His first book, 1992's *Living Things We Love to Hate*, was about bugs and other unpleasant things in the garden. But his new collection of essays, *An Ecology of Deconstruction: A Year in a Country Garden* (HarperCollins, \$20), is a 52-year-

old Kennedy at the age of 10. He describes his parents as "great working-class gardeners," and now regrets that he did not learn more from them. It is a visual feast for the sense. They turned their urban lot into profuse vegetable and flower patches. "That was back when lawns and concrete were the height of style," says Kennedy. At 16, he left home to join a strict Roman Catholic order called the Premonstratensians, and spent the next eight years in seclusion in various northeastern U.S. monasteries. In 1968, Kennedy decided that he did not



Kennedy: the link between gardening and spirituality

old Kennedy at his contemplative best. There are 52 sections, some adapted from his regular columns for *The Globe and Mail* and Vancouver's *Gardens West* magazine, and for each week of the year. Topics range from the comfort he draws from raising something fresh from the garden every day, even if it is just the lovely kale, to how a black November garden is rich to thoughts about the final, final years of his father, who died in 1996. "The life cycle of the garden," says Kennedy in a recent interview, "is very much a metaphor for the human condition."

Kennedy came to gardening as a roundabout way. When in Liverpool, he moved to Toronto with

his family at the age of 10. He describes his parents as "great working-class gardeners," and now regrets that he did not learn more from them. It is a visual feast for the sense. They turned their urban lot into profuse vegetable and flower patches. "That was back when lawns and concrete were the height of style," says Kennedy. At 16, he left home to join a strict Roman Catholic order called the Premonstratensians, and spent the next eight years in seclusion in various northeastern U.S. monasteries. In 1968, Kennedy decided that he did not

needed to survive. But once the couple completed—by their own hands—their house and outbuildings, they had time to plant and tend flowers. These days, Kennedy typically spends his mornings writing. In addition to his books and articles about gardening, he has also produced a novel, *The Garden Club and the Knapack Campaign* (1995), loosely based on his experiences as a prisoner arrested for blocking highway exits at Vancouver's Stanley Canyon Roundabout (it was converted for a Lanark Model for Honor, as was 1994's *Crazy About Gardening*). Kennedy's afternoons are devoted to working in—and enjoying—the garden. "There are similarities between the gardening life and the spiritual life," he says. "You can withdraw from the world and confusion of the world. In many ways, I have what I was looking for in the monastery."

DAVE

Allan Fotheringham



Incredible! A government killed by bingo

We are out on the left coast, British Columbia, where politics is as wild and woolly as the

lakes are blown over the side quickly. The next time due for the Dispersment was for certain, the NDP government. Hang on the black craps.

It has been a slow death, but the excitement arrived swiftly. The news that the fun after a surprisingly long wait, have had more than 100 charges over such a stupid thing as bingo has finished off what remains of Premier Glen Clark's beloved ministers.

The minister known as the socialist turned have charged that Dave Stogich—a former finance minister and federal MP—along with his family and certain colleagues stole from Vancouver citizens for almost 20 years. The end of socialist society was in its prime.

When the CCF, mother to the NDP

was birthed in B.C., the essential idea of the movement was that it was not a political party like the others. Let them—the drapaculous old Gern and old Tories—only so business and judge-judge work with alliances with the corporations that feed their slash funds.

The socialists who founded the CCF were led by poets and professors. Frank Scott, the Montreal law professor and advisor helped write the founding principles. J.S. Woodsworth was a man of the cloth, as was the society Tommy Douglas, the first leader when the CCF morphed into the NDP in an alliance with the (then) moderate steady Canadian labor unions.

There was always that aura of being "above politics"—the socialists of course not wanting to get their hands dirty in the world dry-dry business of wheeling and dealing and compromising and trying to stand up with running party funds. Mr. Stogich, as so the RCMP charge, apparently loaded an innocent way to get around the rising business called predatory needs. It was that staple of the blue-rose ladies on the dull 21st century town of Nanaimo: bingo.

There have been governments around the globe that have been brought down by fraud, by bribery, by incompetence and by hidden presidential fires. This is a *Gossamer Road of Avarice* entry—the first government destroyed by bingo. Under the D. disaster.



The man responsible for the losses in fact is another very nice kindly man. His name is Mike Hancock, the previous NDP premier. Son of an ordinary middle-class family, he is black and white. It was turned into a socialist by Rev. Tommy Douglas.

Working during university summers as a waiter on the CFW (municipal) bus, he was entered a new passenger in B.C.—in the dining car Douglas took a liking to the bright but talked to his seriously and by the time the train hit Vancouver the socialist movement had a convert.

The problem was that Hancock was never really a socialist. The romance of the most appealed to him, but he always remained a small liberal. As the first socialist mayor in Vancouver, then eventually a mayor, he never met—as with WE Rogers—a man he didn't like.

And so, as premier in Victoria, he couldn't believe the long history of illegality that money destined to charities in Nanaimo—the Staged home had—had somehow found its way into NDP coffers.

To be a successful political insider, a man once said, you have to be a good butcher. Maggie Thatcher was, good butcher, chopping the head of cabinet ministers before they knew it was gone. Mackenzie King, history tells us, required from every minister on their appointment a letter of resignation—he be handed out of his but soon drove the instant it was needed.

Bill Clinton, for all that witless trouble and Arkansas draw, is a deceptively good butcher. Washington insiders had your initials on it—and his name. But for it—have without a blink be abundant close friends and colleagues who are no longer useful to him.

Nicely Mike Hancock was not a good butcher. He could never get to the bottom of the B.C. politics because he didn't want to. One suspects he didn't want to know whether British Columbia's first NDP premier, Dave Barrett, was involved. (And he wasn't, even though Stogich was his finance minister.)

But Hancock wouldn't hang down the hammer, he would the use to get to the bottom of the dung heap, and so had to resist because he got tired of the best. He learned too well Harry Truman's axiom: if you can't stand the heat, get out of the kitchen.

Glen Clark is a good butcher. He's a ruthless product of Vancouver's gritty East End. He needed his *crude finance minister* move to the poor sucker was to present his budget to the legislature. Clark can read. He knows his polling figures put his party in the basement behind a Liberal party led by a weak leader, Gordon Campbell, whose wife has confessed that her husband likes to govern but he doesn't like campaigning.

The problem is that it is too late for Butcher Clark. The Asian flu meltdown—with 24 per cent of B.C. exports going to the Pacific Rim in 1996-1997—is going his province a serious sickness called recession. But bingo has finished him off. Under the B.C. govt.



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